Yearly Meeting of Friends for
New England

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Minutes of Men Friends 1820-1835

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New England Yearly Meeting of Friends Minutes of Men Friends 1820 - 1835

No. 103

Men

Women

1820 – 1835

YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

Records,

Vol. 3.

of the

Yearly Meeting

held on

Rhode Island,

for

New England,

from 1792.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends held on Rhode-Island, for New England, beginning with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth on first day, the 11th of 6mo 1820, and on second day morning the 12th, at Newport, for Discipline.

Records have been received from all our Quarterly Meetings the Friends therein named as Representatives are

For Rhode Island, Jonathan Peirce, Dennis Sylvester, Obadiah Brown, Andrew Richie, Jun.r Newport — for Salem, Benjamin Tolman, George Olney, Abigail Collins, Enoch Pond, Isaac Bassett, Jun.r —— Sandwich, Abiel Akin, Seth Davis, Samuel Macy, Benjamin Trevett, Samuel Rodman —— Falmouth, Hezekiah Covington, Ebenezer Allen, Reuben Pucket, Stephen Jones —— Smithfield, Silas Earl, Seth Tolley, Israel Thorn, Obadiah Smith, Thomas Spry —— Nantucket, Moses Barney, Paul Gibbs, Thomas Dow —— Dover, James Hoag, Richd Dame, Benj.a Fry, who are all present except one

We have at this time, the acceptable company of our Friends Nicholas Brown, of Young Street Monthly Meeting, in the State of Upper Canada; Charles Osborne, of Fall Creek Meeting, in the State of Indiana; Daniel Peasley, Ebenezer Haviland of Nine Partners Monthly Meeting, Caleb M.c Comber, of Farmington Monthly Meeting, in the State of New York, whose Certificates were read, as were also the Certificates of our Friends Israel Boone, James Jagg, Silas Downing, and Jacob Haviland, Companions to the aforesaid Friends, who are accepted with us.

The London General Epistle of last year, — with Correspondence Epistles from our Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, and North Carolina were acceptably read, and we appoint Hezekiah Watch, Jun.r Sam.l Rodman, Tho.s Arnold, Obadiah Brown, John Wilbur, Micajah Collins, Stephen Gifford, Rowland Greene, Andrew Robeson, Christopher Almy, and Thomas Arnold to take said Epistles into

1820. into considerations, and if way should open for it, prepare
some Epistles to those Meetings respectively
as well as to the Yearly Meeting of Ohio, and lay
before us at a future sitting.

All our Quarterly Meetings inform that they have paid
or directed their proportions of Stock to be laid to our Friends
Benjamin Graham, Isaac Pidd[illegible], Jno. Pidd Ob
William Evington, Seth Hiley, Moses Hanson, and Isaac Hoag
to settle our accounts with the Treasurer, inform us how much
is to be raised for the ensuing year, and name [illegible]

We are informed by the respective Quarterly Meetings
of which they are Members, that they have united in the ap-
pointment to the Station of Elders of Dennis Pownall
of Greenwich. Hannah Carl[illegible] of Warren. Lydia Hil
bur of South Kingstown. Thomas Davis of Hearn
Elizabeth Swift wife of Brownell Swift of Sandwich
Charles Eastland, of Windham and John Brown, and
Mary M. Brown of Dover — Monthly Meetings.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met by adjournment.

The Committee to attend Abraham Shearman jun. For-
dyce and Hester Thorp for Assistant Clerks, having
attended, they are accordingly appointed for the ensuing year.

Adjourned to the third hour tomorrow afternoon.

13th day. — Met by adjournment.

Answers to the Queries from all the Quarterly Meetings
were read in this and the preceding sitting. The State of
Society as therein unfolded to our view has been reviewed
so many minutes, and led to the exhibition of [illegible] and
pertinent remarks on the deviations from moral rectitude
and delicacy in the sight of our religious testimonies as
therein manifested; with fervent and weighty admonitions to
those who have been the more immediate cause of these com-
plaints, and an earnest call to greater faithfulness in the a-
charge of a apprehended duty, on the part of those who feel con-
cerned to labour in the love of the Gospel, for the recovery of
their delinquent Brethren.

The following Summary is meant to embrace the sub
stance of the Answers:

It appears that with the exception of two mid-week meetings that have been neglected by the few Friends who constituted them and one other small meeting, now attended through the inclemency of the weather, all our Meetings for Worship and Discipline have been duly held. but too great remissness in attendance, particularly in the middle of the week, is still apparent. Some instances of Keeping are noticed: of other unbecoming behaviour mostly clear. —— Friends are generally preserved in love and unity, though in some instances it appears to be much wanting. Distraction mostly guarded against but not without exceptions. Care to end differences is generally maintained. —— Most Friends appear to be concerned to bear up those under their care in plainness and to guard them against the influence of pernicious books and corrupting conversation; while too many are apparently deficient herein, both in precept and example. The Scriptures are frequently read in most families. —— Friends are mostly careful to avoid the improper use of Spirituous liquors: yet we are pained to hear that exceptions still remain; and that in some places a considerable number indulge themselves in this to common use; and that the unnecessary frequenting of places of publick resort, tho' generally guarded against, is not wholly so. —— Our testimony against War, so far as relates to any co-operation in military concerns, appears to be well maintained. —— Moderation and temperance are mostly preserved on the occasions pointed out in the Queries. —— The circumstances of the poor are attended to. —— Friends are generally concerned that proceedings with respect to marriage, be conformable to Discipline; yet some are not sufficiently cautious herein. —— A general care prevails to inspect and settle accounts, and to perform promises; yet with individual exceptions in various quarters. —— Care is taken of our records, tho' some want of due attention to the record of births and deaths is manifest. —— A concern is maintained to deal regularly with offenders; but an apprehension of deficiency is expressed in some of the accounts and that this important duty has not in some instances been so seasonably attended to, as would have been best. —— Endeavours are used to place judgment according to discipline.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, and the attention therein manifested to the concerns of Society that have come before them is satisfactory to this Meeting.

We appoint David Hutchens, Moses Brown, Sylvester Hicks — Isaac Bassett, Junr. Micajah Collins Estes Howell — Wm. [illegible] Saml. [illegible] Duncan, Robt. Hutchinson — Reuben Macket

1820 Samuel H. Rodney, Stephen Jones — Thad Smith, Sam[l] Allen, Sett Kelley, Moses Dow, Moses Starkey, Sam[l] — John Brown, Benjamin Ivy, and James Jones, Jun[r] to Exhume; and Consent at a future sitting, the Names of such Friends as they consider suitable to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

The Committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, made the following report.

"We your Committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's account report that we have adjusted the same, and find a balance due him of One hundred and nine dollars 47/100. We propose to raise the sum of seven hundred dollars, for the year ensuing, to be apportioned the same as last year and propose Obadiah Brown as Treasurer.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 12th of 6mo 1820. "Benj[n]" "Seebourn."

which is acceptable to us, and in accordance therewith, — Obadiah Brown is appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year; and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him their respective proportions of seven hundred dollars, the sum proposed to be raised: — viz. Rhode Island 210. Salem 70 — Sandwich 270. 67 — Falmouth 23.33 — Smithfield 70. Nantucket 21. Dover 35. —

The following report of the Boarding School Committee being read, is accepted by this Meeting; and the Clerk is directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. —

"The Boarding School Committee report, That in the discharge of the duty appointed us by the Yearly Meeting in the last Month last, they have given such attention to the concerns of the Institution as its circumstances seemed to require.

The School is continued under the care of Mary Dow and Mary Pennington as Superintendents, and Thomas Rowland, Stephen G. Chase, and Abigail Pierce, as Instructors. The average number of Children at the Institution for the year last past has been about twenty. Meetings for Worship have been continued, we trust with usefulness — The concerns of the Family and School have been satisfactorily conducted by the Superintendents and Teachers; and the improvement

made by the Children had generally been such as to afford encouragement to the Committee.

"By the accounts of the Superintendent, it appears that the expenses of the Family have been defrayed by the receipts for board and tuition; but there still remains due to the Building Committee, Twelve dollars of Furniture, One thousand and eighty four dollars and eighty six Cents.

"The Tract Fund has been so arranged that the sum of six hundred dollars per annum will be appropriated to the schooling of poor Children of the Society agreeably to the original intention of the Donor. A further sum is also at the disposal of the Committee, arising from subscriptions in the year 1816; creating a Fund, of which the Children have already had the benefit at the Institution, and which, including the above sum of six hundred Dollars, will enable the Committee to admit, three or four, new Children from each Monthly Meeting during the months of the ensuing year.

Signed on behalf of the Committee, by

Providence, 5th mo. 5th. 1820. Sam.l Rodman,
Dorcas Brown."

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

14th day.—Met by adjournment.

A minute of Farmington Mo. Meeting on behalf of Isaac Lain Companion to Caleb Mc Comber, was read at this sitting, and his company accepted.

The Committee appointed to prepare suitable Rules to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, presented the following Names, viz.

David Buffum,	Ezra Collins,	Walter [illegible]	Rowland Gath[illegible]
Moses Brown,	Isaac Lord,	Edward [illegible]	Nicholas Longs[illegible]
William Hoag,	Wm. Hoag,	John Brown	[illegible]
Sylvester Wilbur,	Cornelius Howland	Sam.l C. Hussey,	[illegible]
John Wilbur,	Samuel Rodman,	Moses Dow,	Benj.a Freeborn
Obadiah Brown,	Abrm. Shearman Jr.	Moses Sleeper	Thomas Hoag,
Rowland Greene,	Robert Brayton,	Joshua Meader,	Obadiah Davis
Thomas Whitney,	Roby Mitchell,	Benjamin Hoag,	Abel Harkness
Nicholas Collins,	Lloyd Southwick,	Stephen Long,	[illegible]
William Isaac,	William Buffum,	Thos. Arnold,	[illegible]

which are united with, and they are appointed to compose a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, to proceed thereon agreeably to the foregoing constitution and appointment of that Meeting.

1820

It appearing to this Meeting, from answers to the Queries from our Quarterly Meeting, and from other communications that have come to our knowledge, that many Friends are in the appointment of a Committee to visit that Quarterly Meeting, and such of the Families and Individuals as may require it, and that the Committee appointed by us, viz. Samuel Arnold, Jr., Moses Brown, Elijah Chase, Obadiah Brayton, Jonathan Peckham and Abraham Shotwell, Jun. be desired to attend to the service and assistance as they may consider best adapted to the objects of their appointment, and report at our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon.—Met by adjournment.—

Moses Brown,	Micajah Collins,	Samuel Hoag,	Stephen Jones,
William Jackson, Jr.	Rowland Jackson,	Wm. P. Thomas,	Stephen Gould,
Samuel Redman	John Wilbur,	Daniel Abbot	Thomas Hoag,
Daniel Evans	Edmund Peckham	Jonathan Perry	Silas Cook
William Almy	Abram Freeman, Jr.	Elijah Chase	Moses Brown
Joseph B. Wilbur	Edmund Peckham, 2d	John Mitchell	Isaac Russell, Jr.
Obadiah Brown	Moses Shotwell	Arnold Congdon	Benj. Mott.
Jno. Slocum	John Brown	David Thurston	Wm. Hazard
Silas Casey	Willet Allen,	Sylvester Watkins	— and
Thomas Thurston	Joseph Wright	Enoch Pond	Daniel Clapp,

are named in the part of this Meeting to unite with such Committee as may be appointed by the Yearly Meeting of Friends to constitute a Committee for the superintendance and government of the Boarding School at Providence, and to act therein, in behalf of this Meeting, for the year ensuing.—

This Meeting being informed by Benjamin Hallowell, one of Executors of the last Will and Testament of his late father Thomas Arnold, late of Epping in the State of New Hampshire deceased, that a pecuniary legacy is given in the will of the said Thomas to the Rhode Island Yearly Meeting Moral Institution at Providence, to be received by any two or more persons legally authorized to receive the same. Moses Brown, Treasurer of said Institution, is authorized to receive said Legacy, and to give the needful receipts and discharges to the said Executor, therefor; when paid and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute signed on our behalf.

Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina and Ohio, were read at this time, directed

directed to be transcribed, with such verbal alterations as may appear necessary, signed by the Clerk on our behalf, and forwarded to those ... Meetings

The Clerk is directed to indorse on the Certificates of our Friends from abroad, that their company and services have been acceptable to us.

Having through the several sittings of this Meeting been enabled to feel the strengthening influence of divine love, under which the various concerns of Society that have come before us have been acted upon in brotherly harmony and condescension, we conclude under a grateful sense thereof, proposing to meet again at this place, at the usual time next year.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Aaron Shoemaker, Jun. Clk.

Copies of Epistles forwarded:

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends, of London.

Dear Friends,

While we feel disposed to continue the brotherly correspondence which has hitherto subsisted between us, and, we trust, are not insensible, that it will tend, if preserved under the right influence, to strengthen the bonds of fellowship by which we are held together, we are also sensible, that it is only while maintained on this ground, that it can be of any essential service. And we desire to bear in mind, that not only in supporting this Christian correspondence, but in all our conduct and intercourse one with another, we should submit to the direction of that principle which can alone preserve from error, and which is not withheld from those who ask it in sincerity and faith. We believe that without this for our constant guide, we are in danger of turning aside from the path appointed for us to walk in, and though we may have begun aright, yet unless the eye be kept single to this which is as the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night to direct the steps of those who are travelling toward spiritual Canaan, we can never finish our course with rejoicing.

We noticed in your Epistle the expression of a concern which has been felt by some Friends, that those of our Society who have united with others in public associations, for purposes

1820. benevolence, may be careful to know and maintain their proper station: that we among us, who have opportunities for them in this concern. Our lot has fallen in a day, when various duties of our fellow beings have turned their attention to these things. And we believe that it especially behooves those who are making application with us that they have the light of the Lord to walk in, that when they go to fight [illegible] battles, it may be with his weapons, and in his own appointed time! And it would be safe for us all to mistrust, how far in doing what we may conclude to be the Lord's work, we should be willing to combine with our fellow men's opposition; Let not the left hand know what the right hand doeth.

With the salutation of brotherly love,
we remain Your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,
Abm. Shearman, Junr. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia:

Dear Friends,

In a degree of that love, which according to our measure, has been felt by many of us, to accompany and environ our minds, and as a canopy at times to spread over us in this Meeting, may we salute you, our beloved Brethren, all who desire to walk by the same divine light, and to live by the same power of divine life, shed abroad in the soul. By which we are led to extend our fervent desire that Friendly with us and with you, and every where; may turn their attention more and more to look for, and feel after, the light and operation thereof, in their own spirits, which as it is yielded unto and obeyed, will leaven us into its own nature, and being united therewith, we shall feel our spirits united unto God, who is both light and life; and in him we shall experience an harmonising in love, in practice and in faith. For where the object of our faith is one, in Christ, and looked unto in the same place, to wit, within our own hearts, our faith will also be one. Under his heavenly influence, and his pointings thereof, our correspondence will continue to be a strength and comfort to us in our ministry. Petition and indeed is our [illegible]

hand, directing all to the same thing; and under this influence, we may safely and profitably recur to the principles and practices of our ancient Friends, without danger of difference in our understanding of them?

Let us then dearly beloved Friends, covet to feel each others strength in that charity which is the love of God, nothing doubting where this is felt, but that all other needful confirmations and comforts from without, will in due time be given, and that our minds, whilst abiding in this state, will be equally preserved steadfast, and unmoved by the secret suggestions of the adversary within, and his alarms from without. Both alike intended to betray the innocent life, and to shake our faith and confidence.

By the report of our Committee who have had the oversight of our Boarding School, that Institution appears to progress in harmony, and the literary improvement of the Children encouraging.

Acknowledging the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the Tenth month last. We are

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting

John Pearman, Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends of New York.

Dear Friends,

Under a renewed sense of the continued extension of the heavenly Father's regard, owning this our annual assembly with his presence, and enabling his devoted servants rightly to divide the word; we feel humbly thankful that the ever blessed Truth, which in the course of [illegible]

[illegible] "meadow have rejoiced." "The mourners in Zion shall be comforted, the dumb [illegible] may we under these humbling [illegible] be excited to that [illegible] witnessed?

We are induced to believe, that a measure of that divine love which has thus been felt to circulate in this assembly, has been extended to the precious Youth, and a desire is begotten in many of our Friends, that those in the en-

1820.

walk of life [illegible] with us and our [illegible]
and more to realize the importance of our early duties
[illegible] to the Lord, more desirous to endeavour
after [illegible] than [illegible] for me, and
by the [illegible] of our [illegible]

My mind [illegible] on Sunday: Having had
the information of [illegible] from the testimonies
of Truth which we [illegible] and many of differ-
ent [illegible] to depart to [illegible]. [illegible] con-
cluded [illegible] manifest in the [illegible], on account of these
deputies, and [illegible] with [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] in a [illegible] [illegible] to encourage those who
are fainted with the [illegible] of this [illegible], to a faithful
discharge of this duty, that in the [illegible] they may
be a good example [illegible] that [illegible] adver-
sities in the [illegible] of the Lord will be overruled. May
[illegible] [illegible] to [illegible], that they may [illegible]
[illegible] in [illegible].

The guarded education of our Youth, is a subject
which we [illegible] with you, [illegible] to claim a
share of attention. [illegible] [illegible] with
[illegible] to those [illegible] [illegible] to make a pur-
pose. [illegible] [illegible] of our ac-
quaintance [illegible] [illegible], is [illegible] to
conclude, and are, Dear Friends,

Signed on behalf and by [illegible] aforesaid

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] Meeting of Friends of Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

[illegible] you and [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible]
and [illegible] [illegible] that the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
and more [illegible] to [illegible] of our duties,

Yours

are gradually laid open to our view; and among
we should find ourselves led to the performance of
duties; the neglect of which has at this time occasioned
many of our tribal wounds. but, it will become a cause
of comfort in our sorrows, as long as there is a resting in
the Love of God alone without the bounds, and an attempt
together to know Him, seeking with earnestness, which a different
state of mind would evince. Then the right disp-
osition to attend to intimations gradually bestowed, until it is ente-
lost. In attention to the intimations of truth in
our hearts, at all times is the only means to do away
the causes of complaint and murmurings, which will then
all be removed, for the Love which will cause us to
to shed the eyes of sorrow. And when there is an assembling
in this spirituality, and under the holy influence
with Christians, and Friends should in this way.

We are glad to find in the Epistle, that many
in your Yearly Meeting appear to experience the solemn and im-
of feeling of heart and state which this Epistle seeks to our
sincerely wishes, and graciously manifest himself for their instruction
and this their faith and confidence in God will be increased, and
they become qualified and enabled to labour in the behalf of Ch

The information of the opening of an Institution
the grateful attention of Friends in Canada on the part of you
Meeting is received with satisfaction. The position of our Yearly
Meeting which to you as an objection has gratified us to judge
of its usefulness towards the object of the Committee for affor
encouragement.

The loss of the education we are relieved
from an immediate, active care, as regards the Indian natives of
country, yet the interest in [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[

1820. To the Yearly Meeting of Friends, of Virginia:

overshadowing of divine love, by which our spirits have been revived

[illegible]

[illegible] we have it to [illegible] to be wrapped in the great duty of retiring from all visible things into the presence of all pure, [illegible] to help our infirmities and shew us what we stand in need

[illegible] busy, that there needs a close engagement and wrestling for

[illegible] wisdom nearly to try our faith, so that we may have to continue this for a long season, yea until the fleshly part feel its wound, and we be thereby brought into a native state. O may not these be discouraged by this, or because of the opposition of the enemy. [illegible] to be like unto the [illegible] must be fain [illegible] in his own time, and strengthen the hand [illegible] to the oppressed shall go free; and they shall find rejoicing in their own [illegible] to thy [illegible] and [illegible] of the Lord shall be thy rereward."

O may the dear Youth so dedicate their hearts unto the [illegible] that they may [illegible] wait upon him, they will experience that through his power hard things will be made easy, and bitter things sweet; yea they will find that the work of righteousness shall be peace and the effect thereof, quietness and assurance forever.

[illegible] Epistle of last month, we remain, with the salutation of love.

Your Friends and Brethren.

[illegible] direction, and on behalf of the meeting,

Aaron Sheaman, Jun. Clk.

Dear Friends,

On reading your Epistle of last year, with others from our Brethren of the other Yearly Meetings, we have had renewed cause to [illegible] ... truth and feeling ... to follow the things which ... children of the light, the children of God, one in faith and one in love; and believing it is only as we witness obedience to this divine principle, that we can expect to overcome evil in ourselves, or be qualified to administer help to others, we are concerned to recommend a close attention to this precious gift of God, that ... may become purified and filled ... duly not only to our children, but also to all our fellow ...

We have noticed your observations upon the subject of the ... and ... a near interest with you in the ... desire, and sincerely desire that the present attempt to change the ... may be ... a means of confirming or increasing the affection of those who are ... in all things; but that it may please a merciful Providence in ... to remove the ... and restore their affectionate hand to the ... of man.

With the salutation of love, we are

Your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf, of the ...

Abm. Sharman, Cor. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends, of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Although we have not at this time received ... warmed with a measure of our Heavenly Father's love, our dis... that we may ... have no improper place in us. Let us suffer the scourge of ... the temple of our hearts, that they may ...

1820 [illegible] of [illegible] that [illegible] in [illegible] to come into the state, there must a great self-denial, comparable to the forsaking of father & mother; wife or children, houses or lands; but how animating and consoling is the promise to such as [illegible] [illegible] in this world [illegible] to come life ever lasting. [illegible] for [illegible] who has in the [illegible] to prepare them for eternal glory. — May they not [illegible] crown? and that in due time they with experience the ways [illegible] and all her paths, peace.

[illegible]

Signed on behalf and by [illegible]

Thos. Shearman, Cor. Clk.

1821. 1821.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends, held on Rhode-Island, for New-England, beginning with Public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First-day, the 10th of 6th Month, 1821, and at Newport, on Second-day morning, the 11th, for Discipline.

[illegible] Account of Friends received from the several Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives, are ——— For North-Kingstown, Benjamin Freeborn, Benjamin Ruffinton, John Wilbur, Elisha Bowen, [illegible] Stony [illegible] Dame, Thomas Brown, Enos Page, Isaac Bassett, Junr. Abijah Chase, William Dean ——— Sandwich, Daniel Hoxsie, [illegible] Gath Dav[illegible] [illegible] Hicks, James [illegible] Stephen Jones, William Allen, John Collins, William Co[illegible] [illegible] Rowland Hathaway, Hezekiah Southwick. James N. Fry. [illegible] Isaac Lawton, Thos. Hazard, Joseph Hoxsie, Abraham [illegible] Josiah [illegible] ——— Tower. Jonn Brown, Ezekiel Hoit, Richard Dame, Benjamin Fry.

——— Who are all present except one. ———

The London General Epistle of last year with correspondence Epistles from our Brethren of the Yearly Meetings of London New York Baltimore, Virginia and North Carolina and one from Ohio of 1840 were read and are to our satisfaction.

William Almy, Stephen Collins, Charles Yarnall, Samuel Rodman, Howe Dunn, John Mellor, William Evans, Obadiah Davis, John Osborne, William Collins, Daniel Congdon, Thomas Cope, Stephen Grellet, Joseph J. Chase and Thomas Anthony, are named to take said Epistles into consideration, and if way should open for it, prepare Essays of Epistles to those Meetings, and to the other Yearly Meetings from which no Epistles have been received; and lay before this Meeting at a future sitting.

The Clerk is directed to forward copies of the Epistle corresponding Epistle to our several Quarterly Meetings that it may be transmitted through them to the Monthly Meetings

The Quarterly Meetings inform that they have, had or directed their Treasurers to pay to our Treasurer.

Benjamin Wade, Elijah Dunn, Job C. Wilbur, Caleb Wilbur, William Wilbur, Joseph Rawle and Josiah Leeds are named to settle with the Treasurer, and propose a sum proper to be raised for the service of the ensuing year and report to Meeting.

We are informed by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting that they have united with Nine Months Meeting in approving the publick Ministry of Mary Peckover; and with South Kingstown Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Daniel Peckover and Sarah Lee to the Station of Elders. By Sandwich that they have united with the Sandwich Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Mary Thain to the Station of an Elder — By Falmouth, that they have united with their Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Esther Tripp to the Station of Elder. By Vassalborough, that they have united with Sidney Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Elizabeth Hiatt and with Salem in the appointment of Lewis Hoxie and Clement Hackett, to the same Station — and by Dover, that they have united with Dover Mo. Meeting in approving the publick Ministry of Jane Pedley, and with Sandwich in the appointment of Lydia Tripp to the Station of an Elder.

Adjourned to the Fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, met by adjournment.

The Representatives report the appointment of Abraham Shearman Jun. as Clerk, and Stephen J. Chase as Assistant Clerk, which having the approbation of the Meeting they are appointed accordingly.

Our esteemed Friend Stephen Grellet being now acceptably with us, a minute on his behalf from New York Mo. Meeting was read at this sitting to our satisfaction.

1828.

The Queries were read, with answers from all the Monthly Meetings. The deviations and deficiences thereby manifested, were made the subject of impressive and feeling remarks, particularly on the great importance of parental example, and the interesting duties devolving upon those who have the care of Children, to guard their tender minds from the corruptive influence of intemperance, vain company, and the use of tea, but not less hurtful influence of pernicious Books — with a fervent call to Friends, patiently to labour, in the spirit of love with all, who [in whatever way,] are manifesting an inattention to that principle, which leading out from all hurtful things, would produce harmony and unity among Friends; and as obedience is yielded to it, bring all into conformity with the Divine will. The substance of the answers is intended to be embraced in the following Summary:

All our Meetings have been duly held; and those on first days attended by Friends generally; but some are too negligent; chiefly in the attendance of mid week meetings and those for discipline. Mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour, some instances of sleeping excepted. — Love and [illegible] against; but not so fully, as we believe would result from a more watchful attention to the principle of truth. — — Care to end differences [illegible]. Most — Friends appear to be endeavouring to bring up those under their care in plainness, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupt conversation, and are generally exemplary themselves, yet deficiency in these respects is apparent in some. — The Scriptures are frequently read in most families. — Friends are mostly careful to use spirituous liquors for medicine only, and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns & public resort: yet it appears that all are not sufficiently guarded herein. — Several instances of departure from our testimony against War by united in the accounts; and one military companies, are noticed in the accounts; and one instance of avoiding the payment of duties; which appear to have engaged the attention of Friends when they have occurred. — Moderation and temperance are mostly preserved on the occasions queried after. — The circumstances of the poor are attended to. — Friends are generally careful in

[illegible] and instances of deviation in marrying out. — A concern is manifested to inspect and settle accounts, and to perform promises, yet with a few exceptions. — Our records are attended to, with some deficiency as to births and deaths. — Removals without certificate are under notice. Care is maintained to deal regularly with offenders with an acknowledgment to in some instances it has been too much delayed. Judgment appears to be stayed according to discipline.

An epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia, was received and read at this sitting.

Adjourned to the 6th hour tomorrow afternoon.

12th day. Met by adjournment.

[illegible] the Meeting, [illegible] Friends Samuel Hilles and Esther Thorne, of Caln Monthly Meeting, State of New York and Elizabeth Wilson, of Carlisle, New York, minister from this region. Monthly Meetings returns, and with their present concerns, were read at this time.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, and the attention therein manifested to the concerns that have come before them is satisfactory to this Meeting. The same Friends are continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year. —

It appearing, by the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings, that the Governour of the State of Maine has manifested a desire for the amelioration and civilization of a tribe of Indian natives within that State, and has made application to a Member of this Meeting, with a view to the [illegible] participating in that object, we appoint Friends Benjamin Matt, Rowland Greene, Walter Allen, David Buffum, jun., Henry Gould, James Maxwell, Cornelius [illegible] Thomas Thorn, Daniel Schoo, Nicholas Wood, Samuel [illegible] Johnson, John C. Davis, William Cole and Joseph Rowland to take the subject into consideration, and report at a future sitting.

The following Report of the School Committee was read, was accepted, and the Clerk directed to forward it, along with our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings:

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Boarding School Committee report that the school is still continued under the care of Matthew and Rebecca Wilson as Superintendents, and Thomas Rowland, Stephen A. Chase, and Abigail Reed, as Instructors. The number of Children at the

1821. — Institution for the past year has averaged about seventy-five for the whole year. Meetings for worship have been continued, as previously established. The family has been preserved in harmony, and the concerns of the Institution generally, so conducted as to afford continued promise of usefulness. By the accounts of the Superintendent it appears that the arrears of the Family have been paid by the receipts for board and tuition, and that the Institution is now free from debt. Most of the Monthly Meetings have availed themselves of the privilege given last year of sending one child to the Institution for the space of six months, and such as have not availed themselves of it, viz. Scabrook, Sandwich, N. H. Windham, Sidney and Harlem, are now considered at liberty to send one child each, twelve months, provided they conclude so to do within six months from this date; and such Monthly Meetings as have availed themselves of the privilege, have the liberty of sending a child each, six months of the ensuing year; or if preferred by any Monthly Meetings, they may send two children six months each.

The Committee, having noticed with concern, that as respects plainness of dress, their recommendations in minutes forwarded to the different Monthly Meetings have not in divers instances been attended to, think that usefulness may result from bringing their minute of 2d Month, 1819, before the Yearly Meeting, that it may again be forwarded to the Monthly Meetings, under its sanction.

Signed on behalf of the Committee

Samuel Rodman

Providence, 3d mo 4. 1821. Dorcas Brown

[Minute of the School Committee above referred to.]

"It has appeared necessary, from experience derived since the opening of the Institution, that more general circumspection should be extended in sending Children to the School, conformable to the recommendation in the printed Circular of the 12th month last. And to preserve the order necessary to carry the object of the Yearly Meeting into more complete effect, it is recommended, that each Monthly Meeting appoint a few suitable Friends to whom application may be made by Parents or Guardians of Children, who are desirous of placing them at the School. — That the Friends, so appointed, consider it their duty, not only to enjoin that the Children come in a plain dress, and in the use of the plain Scripture language, but that they are of good habits. And that they give a few lines to that import, for the information of the Superintendents and Instructors at the School. Samuel Rodman, Clk.

The Friends named last year, on the part of this Meeting, to unite with such Committee as may be appointed by the Yearly Meeting of Women Friends to constitute a Committee for the superintendence and government of the Boarding School at Providence, are continued in that appointment for the year ensuing.

The Committee appointed to settle with the Treasurer, and for other purposes, Report, that they have settled with him, and find in his hands the sum of $56 10/100 — they propose that 700 dollars should be raised for the service of the ensuing year; and the appointment of Obadiah Brown as Treasurer, which is acceptable to us. — Obadiah Brown is appointed Treasurer, accordingly, and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him, their respective proportions of the sum proposed to be raised, [viz. Rhode Island 210 — Salem 70 Sandwich 270 — Falmouth 23 — Smithfield 70 Vassalboro' 21 — Dover 35.]

Adjourned to the 11th hour, tomorrow morning.

13th day. Met by adjournment.

The Committee appointed, as by minute of last year, to visit Dover Quarterly Meeting, made the following report:

The Committee appointed last year to visit Dover Quarterly Meeting, and such other Meetings and individuals within the same, as they might find way open for — have all except one, who was prevented by want of health, visited that Quarterly Meeting and they have also visited several of the Meetings, and a number of individuals within the same, as far as way opened, and labored with the ability afforded, for the removal of those things which appeared to be the cause of exercise in the Yearly and subordinate Meetings; and given such advice both verbally and in writing, to that end, as way appeared to them to open for in the Truth.

Signed in behalf of said Committee.
Cornelius Howland.

6 mo. 13. 1821.

which being considered, is accepted.

The Committee appointed at our last sitting, on the subject of an extension of the care of Friends to the Indians, makes the following report: "The Committee respecting the Canadasett Indians have attended to that appointment, and are united in proposing

1821. to the Yearly Meeting, the appointment of a Committee to make enquiry into their situation, in order more fully to ascertain, whether, and in what manner, this Meeting can be of service, in extending to those Natives the means of civilization and improvement.

Rowland Greene,
in behalf of the Committee.

Newport, 13th of 6mo 1821.

which having claimed the attention of Friends, led to an expression of feeling for them in their present situation — and Wm Cobb, Moses Sleeper, and Joseph Rowland are appointed in accordance with the report, for the objects therein specified; in which service they are requested to desire the aid of the Friends who are Agents for said Natives, under appointment from the government of Maine — and report at our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Met by adjournment.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read at this sitting, and were directed to be transcribed in the Book, with such verbal alterations as may appear necessary, signed on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings.

The Clerk is directed to endorse on the minutes of our Friends from abroad, that their company and services have been acceptable to us.

Having through the several sittings of this Meeting been enabled to feel a measure of the influence of divine love; under a grateful sense thereof we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island in the 5th month next.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman Jr. Clk

Epistles.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

Your brotherly Epistle of the last year, met with a cordial acceptance in this our Annual

Assembly which are very large, and among them many of whom it has been composed, are some who have joined our Society by convincement since last year. It is our desire that such may meet with no discouragement from the imperfections which they may observe in any of their fellow Members, but that every renewed evidence of divine power in the minds of such visited children may be duly attended to and obeyed. And that we all of every class may be engaged more and more to become the faithful followers of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; that we may enjoy his peace while here, and have a well grounded hope of a blessed immortality.

Sensible that our own wisdom, and the activity of our own minds, in any of our Meetings for the service of Truth, will never avail to its honour, or the comfort and consolation of those who are thus acting; we are desirous that special regard may ever be had to that wisdom which is from above; that so all our Meetings may be held under the influence of that which raised and supported our ancestors through many tribulations and established them on the Rock of Ages.

It is much to be desired that Friends every where may be carefully guarded against giving countenance to the various fictitious publications on religious subjects, tending to infidelity, and laying waste the Holy Scriptures and inculcating disbelief in the divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Our Meetings which have been continued, we believe with usefulness, and generally with care and judicious management, under the Divine blessing, to be of lasting advantage.

We have the acceptable company of our Friends Stephen Grellet and Hannah Field, and divers other Friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

This Meeting has been favoured with our heavenly Father's love, and in the love and fellowship of the Gospel, we salute you, and bid you Farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Wm Shearman, Clk

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1821

To the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

We have been in this our Annual Assembly been made sensible of the truth of that saying of our divine Master, "Without me ye can do nothing." Under a deep sense hereof many minds we believe have been engaged humbly to look for a renewal of that strength which cometh from the Lord alone: believing that the safety of the Christian depends upon a proper sense of his own nothingness and unworthiness and of the unmerited mercy, long-suffering and tender compassion of our gracious Redeemer. We have been led to believe, that as these humbling views are sufficiently abode under, a state of watchfulness will be induced and a holy fear begotten, that, through the influence and guidance of this Holy Spirit will preserve us from offending him in thought, word, or deed.

We humbly desire that those who have in any measure been made sensible of the redeeming love of God in Christ tasted of the good word of life, may be preserved in a state of diligent attention to the gentle intimations of truth, that so they may be enabled clearly to distinguish the voice of the true Shepherd from the voice of the stranger, and to follow him who has declared his ways to be ways of pleasantness, and all his paths to be peace.

Your acceptable Epistle of the Fourth Month last has been received and read, and we cordially reciprocate the sentiment therein contained, that it is matter of great importance that we should get a proper estimate upon the favours and blessings which we enjoy; that so, through faithfulness to the injunctions and manifestations of the Spirit of truth as they are received, we may walk worthy of our high calling as Members of that Church, which is fitly compared to a city set on a hill that cannot be hid: over which, as there is but one Lord, so in it there is but one faith and one baptism.

An earnest solicitude has been begotten with many, that those in the early paths of life whose minds are yet tender and susceptible may keep a single eye to their divine Leader, following him in singleness of heart whithersoever he may be pleased to lead them, in full assurance that as their dependence is solely upon him, nothing will be able to move them away from the hope

of the Gospel, through Jesus Christ our Lord; and that, at the end of the race which is thus set before them, there is a crown immortal which fadeth not away.

By the report of the Committee charged with the superintendence of our Boarding School, it appears that there is ground for hope and encouragement, that that Institution may be productive of usefulness.

In a feeling as we humbly trust of a measure of that love which would embrace all under its covering in Heaven, and with desires that we may be more closely knit and bonded together, harmoniously labouring for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth. We salute you, and are Your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting.

Abraham Shipman, Jr. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of New-York.

Dear Friends,

Being again convened for the transaction of the weighty concerns of the Church, your acceptable Epistle of last month has been read to our satisfaction.

Although the investigation of the state of Society at the time it was presented gave painful emotions in the mind of many, under a sense that some are turning aside from the paths of rectitude and peace; yet we rejoice in believing that the number is increasing to whom the testimonies which we are called to bear are precious, and who are earnestly desirous that they may keep their ranks in righteousness.

The way to the Kingdom hath ever been straight and narrow; yet those who have been faithful to pursue it have experienced that there is great delight in treading the path of the Lord. A concern hath been felt renewedly at this time that our beloved youth may be drawn off from the deceptions and allurements of the world; and that they may become inwardly acquainted with the language of the true Shepherd, who leadeth safely all those who submit to be led by his guidance. In every qualified instrument in the Divine hand hath declared: "That it is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth." If this we

1821. individually there cannot not one of the precious truths, 'comparable to fine gold,' would be 'esteemed as an earthen pitcher,' but they would be 'as trees planted by the rivers of water,' and as a 'field which the Lord hath blessed.' — The dew of heaven would rest upon them, and they would be green in old age.

We cordially feel with you, how necessary it is, that we be concerned to exalt those precious testimonies which first distinguished our Society, and that we are called upon to maintain them; believing that in proportion to our faithfulness in these respects; so shall we be rewarded and preserved as a people.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Abraham Sharman, Junr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Under a sensible degree of that love, which flows from the blessed Head of the Church, & breathes peace on earth and good will to men, we salute you; and we feel a fervent desire, that the same love, as intimated by you, may ever be the close string of our epistolary intercourse; by which means we shall feel the travail and exercise of each others spirits, begotten in him whose love is over all his works; and all our movements, under this influence, will conduce to the promotion of truth and righteousness in the earth; or in other words, to "the welfare of Zion and the enlargement of her borders." For we rejoice in fully believing, there is one true Church over which Christ is head; and all its living members breathe one spirit, speak one language, and are known to each other by the purity of their love to God and man — this only bond of Christian unity. And by it, all these are bound together, and are made to drink of that one fountain, from whence flows the supply for every thirsty soul.

Without further enlarging at this time, we conclude, and are,

Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Sharman, Junr. Clk

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To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

It appears that those who feared the Lord spake often one to another, and that the Lord hearkened and heard, and when he made up his jewels he spared them as a father spareth his only son that serveth him. A deep engagement attends our minds that we may be so preserved in this Holy fear, that we may experience an abiding in Christ the true Vine, that all our religious exercises may be to the praise of his great Name and improvement one of another; and although he may see meet in his infinite wisdom to purge his branches, in order to prepare them to bring forth more fruit, yet may our faith and trust be so in him, that we may bear all the operations of his purging hand with a resigned state of mind, however painful some of them may be: Yet as we are persuaded that no impure thing can enter his Kingdom, may nothing in us obstruct his work, that we may be fully prepared to enter therein. — And being sensible of the danger of being exhausted by worldly enjoyments, may we, through divine assistance, be engaged in heart to enter into that retired quiet state, in which those divine breathings of the mind may be so strengthened that we may not faint, but be enabled to pray without ceasing, that this due preparation of heart may draw down the divine blessing.

We have received your acceptable Epistle of the 6th month last, which has been read in our Meeting to satisfaction, and With the salutation of love we

Your friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of this Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Sherman, Jr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of North-Carolina

Dear Friends,

We have cause of thankfulness and humble gratitude to Almighty goodness in that we have been once more permitted to meet together in this our annual assembly in order to transact the weighty affairs of the Church which has been done in a good degree of harmony and brotherly condescension.

In viewing the State of Society as presented to us

1821

the devout Pursuits of Believers, although deviations from our well known principles are apparent therein, which are painfully felt by every sincere traveller Zion ward, yet we are still encouraged in the belief, that Friends are generally preserved, and that there is still among us a living remnant who are concerned to labour for the removal of those deviations; that the camp of our Israel may be cleansed and restored to its ancient beauty, as also for the promotion of truth and righteousness in the earth; the consideration whereof, hath been cause of comfort and satisfaction to us, and may their number increase.

Your acceptable Epistle of 11th Mo. last was received, and read to satisfaction. We sympathize with the oppressed Africans, and with you on their behalf, desiring that whenever favourable opportunities present, every thing consistent with the dictates of truth may be done for their relief.—

With the salutation of our love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.—

Dear Friends,

Believing as we do, that an Epistolary intercourse with our distant Brethren, when dictated and acted in, under the influence of the Spirit of Truth, has a tendency to stir up the pure mind, and to strengthen our faith in the love of the Gospel; and desirous that our correspondence may ever be derived from this source, as that only that can contribute to our edification and religious advancement, We affectionately salute you.

That the love of God and of our neighbour may increase and prevail throughout our Society, and a harmony suited to the noble character of men and brethren, pervade the universe, is ardently to be desired.— That there is a progress toward this divine attainment we charitably hope, notwithstanding the many weaknesses and deviations that appear; and knowing in what our strength and stability consists, let us look forward with an encouraging hope, towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, and not suffer discouragement and dismay by dwelling upon present or past weaknesses.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 4th Mo. 1819, did not reach us in season for our last Yearly Meeting. It has been received at the present. Yet, in it we observe, that many are exercised in travail of Spirit, to excite watchfulness and vigilance

over the welfare of the Society, ... and that your concern and endeavours for the improvement of the situation of the Indian natives have progressed measurably to your satisfaction and encouragement. With the renewed salutation of love We are your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

Abraham Shearman, junr. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Being again convened in our annual assembly our best feelings have been quickened by the reading of very acceptable communications from our beloved brethren composing the Yearly Meetings of London, and from most of those on this Continent — The evidence that we are one people, united in the bond of Christian Faith, has been renewedly felt, — and under this influence our minds are drawn towards you at this time; with living desires that we may all be preserved in that purity and simplicity of faith and practice which from an early period has distinguished us as a peculiar people. That preserving arm which has hitherto been graciously extended for our preservation, will, as we have the fullest assurance, be still held forth, as we abide under the right exercise, looking to our Holy Head and Divine Lawgiver. — Thus we shall be enabled to maintain the law and the testimony, and the ancient landmarks of our faith will be preserved.

Toward our beloved Friends who have been established, but have not yet assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity, our minds are turned with affectionate regard, desiring that you with us may indeed be the instruments of good, looking for help to him alone who is the Author and Finisher of our faith. — The constitution of an unconverted adherent may, like transformations various, be abhorrent; but if we keep a single eye to the Truth, as made known in the secret of the mind, through the revelation of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord, the path of duty will be made plain, and our eyes being anointed with the eye salve of the kingdom, we shall be enabled to distinguish Truth from error, and to "judge righteous judgment." — This we crave for ourselves, and for our dear friends [illegible].

Our present gathering has we think been as large as usual, and a portion of the Father's love hath favoured the several sittings, uniting us into one body, under our high and Holy Head.

We are your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting

Abraham Shearman, junr. Clk.

1822. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends, held on Rhode Island, for New England, beginning with Public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First Day the 16th of the Sixth Month, 1822, and at Newport on Second-Day morning, the 17th, for Discipline.

Accounts being received from the several Quarterly Meetings constituting this Yearly Meeting, the Friends therein named as Representatives, are:—— For Rhode-Island, Moses Brown, Thomas Wilbur, Benjamin Hoxton, David Earl, Sylvester Wickes.—— Salem, John Cox, David Dow, Micajah Collins, Enoch Pond, Obed Thompson, Stephen A. Chase.—— Sandwich, Francis Jones, Peleg Mitchell, Seth Riley, Abraham Davis, Stephen Rogers, James Tucker.—— Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Noah Bud, John Morton, Edwd Cobb.—— Smithfield, Josiah Dove, Jesse Batty, Jol Chase, James N. Wing.—— Cadd Borough, Edward Forster, Moses Dow, Elihu Bowerman, Samuel Hawkes.—— Dover.—— James Hoag, Benjamin Fry, Jonathan Lane, Isaac Wendall, John Brown,—— We are all present but one.

The London General Epistle of last year, with Corresponding Epistles from our Friends of the Yearly Meetings London, Philadelphia, New York, Virginia, North-Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, and one from Ohio, of 1820 not received last year, were read in this Meeting to our satisfaction and edification.—— Sylvester Wickes, Moses Brown, Obadiah Davis, Samuel Hudson, Jol Otis, Thomas Rowland, Rowland Greene, Micajah Collins, John M. Davis, James Tucker, William Hoag, Stephen A Chase, Edward Cobb, and William James are named to take said Epistles into consideration, and if, way should open, prepare Epistles to those Meetings, and lay before this, at a future Sitting.

Our esteemed Friend George Withy being now acceptably with us, Certificates from the Monthly Meeting of Branch-Bay, in England; the Quarterly Meeting of Gloucester & Wilts, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, held in London, in 1821, expressive of unity with his Ministry and prospects in this present religious visit in this Country, were severally read.

We have also, at this time, the acceptable company of our Friends, Christopher Healey, of Falls M° Meeting, Bucks County, Pennsylvania;— Asenah Herton and Tristram Russell, of Marlborough M° Meeting, State of New York;

New York, Henry Knowles of Bridgewater M.o Meeting in the same State; who produced Certificates of the unity of their Friends with their Ministry and present Services.

Isaac W. Morris, of Philadelphia, Companion to our friend George Withy. Moses Comfort, of Falls Monthly Meeting, Companion to our friend Christopher Healy. John Townsend Hallock, of Marlborough Monthly Meeting, Companion to our friend Asa Ruton. — Nathan Spencer, of Pendleton ville M.o Meeting, James Smith, of Burlington, William Darling, of Scipio, and Timothy Chace, of Smithsborough M.o Meeting, are also acceptably with us.

Joseph Anthony, Stephen Gould, Thomas Ray, Stephen Rogers, Noah Reed, James Hoag, Moses Mosher, and Philip Chase are named a Committee to settle the Treasurer's Accounts, report the State of the Treasury, with the Sum they consider necessary to be raised, and propose a Treasurer for the year ensuing.

We are informed by the accounts from the Quarterly Meetings held in Sandwich Quarter the Publick Ministry of Justin Jones, Jun.r of Nantucket Monthly Meeting; and in Smithfield, the Publick Ministry of Daniel Peck, of Uxbridge Monthly Meeting has been approved. that Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Salem Monthly Meeting in disowning the Publick Ministry of Mary Newhall — and that the several Quarterly Meetings of which they are Members; have concurred in the appointment of Hannah Gould, Jun.r of Rhode Island M.o Meeting Ezekiel Jones of Seabrook, Seth Killey of Sandwich; Ezekiah Swain of Nantucket; Jonathan Swain, and Susannah Gardner of Nantucket Northern District. Stephen Thomas, of Smithfield; and Joshua Meader and Shubi Meader, of Berwick, to the Station of Elders.

Adjourned to the South room this afternoon

Afternoon — Met by adjournment.

The Representatives having proposed Abraham Shearman for Clerk, and Stephen A. Chase, Assistant Clerk. their appointment is united with by the Meeting.

An Epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore was received and read at this sitting. and referred to the Committee appointed in the morning.

The Queries having been read, with answers from all the Meetings. We appoint David Buffum, Moses Brown, William Almy, Edward Cobb, Moses Sleeper, John Wilbur, Seth Killey, of Smithfield, Samuel T. Hussey, Clark Rodman, Rich.d Mowry, Jonathan Swain, Jonas Gardner, Benjamin Percival, W.m Rotch Jun.

1822. Peleg Mitchell, Thomas Rowland, Isaac Wendall, Obadiah Davis, John R. Davis, and Rowland Greene, a Committee to take into consideration the State of Society as therein manifested, with such other subjects as they may consider proper to come before this Meeting, and report thereon, at a future sitting or sittings.

The Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting to make inquiry into the situation of a Tribe of Indian Natives in the State of Maine, and to ascertain in what manner this Meeting can be of service, in extending to those Natives the means of civilization and improvement, made the following Report:

"To the Yearly Meeting of New-England, next ensuing.

"We, your Committee, in conjunction with Samuel H. Hussey and Jackson Davis in order to fulfil our appointment relative to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, in the Ninth Month last went on to the Penobscot River; commenced our visit at Old Town Island, twelve miles above Bangor; thence visited all their settlements, on their line of Islands, [which are] of the best of land, to Passadumkey, a distance of twenty two miles; went into most of their cabins; had conversation with their families; then returned to Old Town, and by previous arrangement, had an interview with their Lieutenant-Governour, John Nicolins, and a number of their Chiefs; together with some of their principal Women; in all which we endeavoured to impress their minds with the object of our mission, by stating the advantages that would result to them, could they be induced to turn their attention more to farming and a civilized life; pointing out to them the means by which it might be carried into effect; to which they listened with attention, and appeared willing to concur with. — As from the failure of their fisheries and hunting, they appeared to be convinced of the necessity of a change of their mode of acquiring subsistence; and manifested a degree of thankfulness and gratitude for the care thus extended towards them. Yet there are many obstacles opposed to their being brought to a civilized State; their attachment to their original Savage habits, from which they have but very little departed, their great aversion to agricultural labour; and their thirst for ardent spirits all contribute to render the prospect discouraging; and the matter of civilization almost hopeless, or at least a work of time, of labour, and expense; yet every circumstance considered, we are led to doubt the propriety of relinquishing the object, until further experiment be made.

Wm Cobb,
Moses Sleeper,
Joseph Rowland.

Vassalborough, 5th 27. 1822.

This whole number of population is 284.
Number of Children under 10 years 91.
Number of Persons over 10 and under 20 years 51.

which report being read, is acceptable to us: and having led to some investigation of the subject, is referred for further consideration to the Committee on general Services

Adjourned to the fourth hour tomorrow afternoon.

18th day. Met by adjournment.

The Committee appointed yesterday, report, that after mature consideration it is their judgment that the following minute of this Meeting, of 1706, be revived, viz.

"At a Yearly Meeting of Friends held on Rhode Island, the 18th of 4th Month, 1706.

"It is the judgment of this Meeting that no person that is "out of unity with Friends; or under dealing of Friends for any "miscarriage ought is be suffered to sit in Meetings of business; nor "their collections to be received; but be desired to withdraw from "such Meetings until such time as they give satisfaction for such "their miscarriage."

— which being considered, is adopted, and the Minute accordingly revived, and copies of it directed to be forwarded to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, that it may be entered on our Books of Discipline.

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our Friends, Phebe Field, of Scipio; Ruth Spencer, of Rensselaerville, Mary Wilcox, of New York; Hannah L. Smith, of Burlington; and Hannah Gove, of Shrewsborough; minutes of their respective Mo. Meetings were read at this sitting.

The following Summary is intended to embrace the State of Society as exhibited to this Meeting by the Answers to the Queries.

It appears, that with the exception of one small Meeting not at all times kept up, the situation of which is under notice, all our Meetings for Worship and Discipline have been duly held; yet considerable remissness is apparent, particularly in the attendance of mid-week Meetings; and we have been sorrowfully affected by the information, that in one Quarter, some who have been diligent attenders of them, have of late become remiss therein: and that in some of our Meetings other instances of unbecoming behaviour have occurred, beside the reprovable one of sleeping, when met for the solemn object of Divine worship.

— Most Friends appear to be concerned for the prevalence of love and unity; yet in some instances there is an evident want of harmonizing together; and in others, they appear not to be fully maintained. — All are not preserved from giving way to the spirit of detraction, though it appears to be generally guarded against. — Endeavours are used to end differences. — Many Friends appear concerned to bring up those under their direction in

1822. ...minuted, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation; while others are evidently deficient herein, and in some a good example is wanting. — The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most families. Friends are mostly careful in regard to Spirituous liquors, yet we fear from the exceptions that are made, that our testimony against their improper use is not gaining ground among our Members. — Frequenting of taverns and places of publick resort, has not in some instances been sufficiently guarded against. — Moderation and temperance appear to be preserved on the occasions queried after. — Departures from our testimony against War, in a few instances of a military nature, are under the care of Friends where they have occurred. — The circumstances of the Poor receive attention. — Friends are mostly careful that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline; yet some instances of deviation are noticed. — A care, with few exceptions, is manifest in settlement of accounts: and it does not appear but that Friends are endeavouring to live within the bounds of their circumstances. — Our Records are mostly attended to. — A few instances of removal without Certificate are under notice. — Care is generally maintained to deal regularly with offenders, though in some instances it appears to have been too much delayed; and some opposition to the regular administration of Discipline to have been experienced. — Judgment has been timely where it appeared necessary.

The Boarding School Committee made the following Report:

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Boarding School Committee report, that they have continued their care in the concerns of that Institution, which have been so conducted as to meet their approbation — Matthew and Betsey Purinton still exercise the care of Superintendants, and Isaiah Jones, Samuel B. Tobey, Abigail Pierce, and Sarah Lockwood are employed as Instructors. — Thomas Wilbur has been usefully employed a part of the past year in the same station. The improvement made by the Children committed to their care has been such as to afford us encouragement. Meetings have been kept as at first established and they are generally attended by some of the Committee. — The Superintendants, Teachers and other Members of the Family appear to live in harmony; and a greater degree of health has been witnessed than in any previous year. The average number of Scholars has been about seventy five. The re-

visits for Board and Tuition continue to meet the expenditures. The situation of the Funds is such as to enable the Committee again to admit one Scholar from each Monthly Meeting, six months or two Scholars three months each, free of expense. They feel it incumbent to suggest to Monthly Meetings, that judicious selections in these cases, are of importance, it having been found by experience, that such as have had some opportunities for previous improvement, have not only made greater proficiency than where it has been otherwise, but such upon their return home have been usefully employed, as Instructors in smaller Schools; thereby rendering the Institution more extensively beneficial.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Providence, 5th mo 3. 1832. Abm Shearman, junr.

Mary P. Allen.

which being read, is acceptable to us, and copies thereof directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

The care of the Committee having been satisfactory to this Meeting, the Friends who compose it are requested to extend their Superintendence, (in conjunction with such Committee as may be appointed by the Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,) for the year ensuing. Samuel Rodman declining a re-appointment, is released from further service on the Committee.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read; — and the attention therein manifested to the concerns that have come before them, being satisfactory, the same Friends are continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, with the exception of Samuel Rodman, who declines a re-appointment.

Adjourned to the fourth hour tomorrow afternoon.

19th day. — Met by adjournment.

The Committee appointed to settle with the Treasurer and for other purposes, report that they have attended to that service and find a balance due them of eight dollars $\frac{48}{100}$. — They propose that the sum of six hundred dollars be raised to meet the expenses of the ensuing year, (to be proportioned the same as the year past,) and that Obadiah Brown be appointed as Treasurer. — which is acceptable to us, — and in conformity therewith,

Obadiah Brown is appointed Treasurer, and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him their respective proportions of the sum proposed to be raised. [viz: Rhode Island, $180 — Salem, 60 — Sandwich, 132 — Falmouth, 20 — Smithfield, 60 Nantucket, 18 — Dover, 30.]

The Committee on general services, propose, that the consideration of Printing an additional number of our Books of Discipline be referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, which has the concurrence of this Meeting and the subject is so referred.

1822. The Committee on General Services also recommend the appointment of a Committee to continue and extend care toward the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, in giving them such advice and assistance as may open for, in promoting their civilization, and in a due appropriation of their own resources, in securing and increasing to them the comforts of domestic life — which being considered, is united with and Isaac Reed, Samuel Hawkes, Edward Cobb, and Stewart Foster are appointed a Committee to act on behalf of this Meeting in the promotion of those objects, and are requested to report at our next Yearly Meeting their progress herein, and their views of future usefulness in the continuance of such care.

It appearing necessary that some repairs and alterations should be made on the House now occupied by this Meeting, Friends of Rhode-Island & N°. Meeting are requested to take the care of such repairs; and report the expense at our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 8th hour tomorrow morning.

20th day — Met by adjournment.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North-Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read at this sitting, and after being considered, and receiving some alterations, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such further verbal amendments as may appear necessary, and forwarded to those Meetings.

The following Communication to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings was also directed to be transcribed and forwarded.

[Inserted at close of these Minutes.]

A Committee named yesterday afternoon for the purpose of collecting subscriptions for the repairs of Friends' Meeting-House in Newport, now occupied by the Yearly Meeting, report that they have received four hundred dollars for that object; which they are requested to hand to the Treasurer of Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends from abroad, with minutes agreeable to Essays proposed.

Grateful for the measure of Divine goodness mercifully extended to us at this time; and for that degree of harmony in which the concerns of Society that have come before us, have resulted, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island, in the Sixth Month next.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk.

From our Yearly Meeting of Friends held on Rhode Island for New England, from the 16th to the 20th of the Sixth Month, inclusive, 1833.

To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings belonging.

Dear Friends.

Having been dipped into an exercise for the welfare of the body a concern has arisen to address the Members of this Yearly Meeting on account of various deficiencies which appear in the reports to the Meeting this year, concerning some of our Christian testimonies. Among these, is that of attending our religious meetings: the neglect of which, we have reason to believe, tends to laxity in all those who decline the practice of assembling with their brethren for the purpose of religious worship. We likewise observe with sorrow, that our testimony respecting the use of spirituous liquors, is in divers instances disregarded by Members of our Society, thereby exposing themselves to many snares and temptations, if not to irretrievable misery.

We believe that many of those weaknesses and deviations which exist among us, are introduced by giving way to a worldly spirit and have their foundation in this; for "to be carnally minded is death." — May we therefore, dear Friends, endeavour above all things to seek an increasing acquaintance with the God of our lives, by often retiring to, and waiting upon Him, whereby we may feel his Spirit to help our infirmities, and teach us what to pray for. — As this becomes our frequent practice, it will kindle love to the Brethren, tend to wean us from an undue attachment to the things of this world, and strengthen us to overcome those things that have easily beset us. In this state, our religious meetings will be made precious to us, and we shall not be easily hindered from assembling with our Brethren; we shall become desirous of exhibiting a good example; and shall know a being qualified to unite with others to labour, in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, with those who may be found departing from the testimonies which we as a Society are called to bear.

And we have felt particularly desirous, that Overseers and other concerned Friends, in all our Monthly Meetings, may seasonably and faithfully labour, for the restoration and preservation of all our Members, carefully cultivating a spirit of love and unity; bearing in mind that these are essential qualifications unitingly to labour with those who may be found departing from our religious testimonies.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Wm. Shearman, Jun.r Clk.

Epistles.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

Being again favoured to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and our minds drawn into a concern for the welfare of the Church, we have been comforted and encouraged by the reading of your last acceptable Epistle, as well as by those which we have received from the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent. Through the mercy of him whose gracious presence is ever near to do his people good, evidence has been afforded that there are still felt amongst us the strivings of that life which is the hope of the devoted servant of Jesus Christ, and the alone qualification for usefulness in the promotion of his blessed cause. And indeed, when we consider the gracious promises to those who abide faithful in the Truth, we are comforted with a belief, that there is no cause for dismay, but rather to thank God and take courage, pressing towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

This Meeting has been large, and favoured with the company of many of the precious Youth, for whose welfare and preservation from the snares of our unwearied adversary our minds are deeply concerned, fervently desiring that this and all other classes may abide in true humility, that ornament of the Christian character, seeing it is the humble the Lord teacheth of his ways, and the meek he will guide in judgment. In this humble and teachable state of mind the aids with which we are graciously furnished for our furtherance in the path of rectitude will be duly valued. The Holy Scriptures, we believe to be one of those aids; and the fervently and fellowship of those whose hearts are influenced in that spirit the unity of which is the bond of peace, a source of great consolation to the Christian traveller.

Our friend George Withy from your country has been at this time acceptably with us.

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Being again permitted through Divine goodness to assemble together for the transaction of the important concerns of Society, we have renewed cause to be thankful that there is a living remnant among us, who are feelingly solicitous for the welfare of Zion, and for the enlargement of her borders. Yet we have cause for deep humility and mourning in witnessing the many deviations from the path of rectitude, as expressed by the answers to the Queries brought up at this time from our Quarterly Meetings.

Your

Your acceptable Epistle of the fourth month last has been received, and read at this time to our comfort and satisfaction; and we feel strengthened and confirmed by the several accounts received from our dear Brethren in the various parts of our own country and from abroad, that the Lord is still mercifully pleased to vouchsafe his blessing and to grant to all those who seek him with a perfect heart and a willing mind, the renewed evidence of his Holy Spirit, and though many may fall on the right hand and on the left, "the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his."

In turning our attention to our beloved Youth we have abundant cause of thankfulness to the Author of all our mercies, that there are many of the rising generation coming up in the path of virtue, and who have their tender minds touched with a feeling sensibility for the welfare of our Religious Society, and we humbly trust that when the period arrives for them to fill the places now occupied by those of riper years, they will prove an ornament to their profession, and a blessing to posterity.

In a feeling of Gospel love we salute you, and remain

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

Abraham Shearman, Junr Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of New York.

Dear Friends,

Being again permitted to meet together in this our Annual Assembly, your acceptable Epistle of the Fifth Month last has been received and read to our satisfaction, affording a renewed evidence that we have one Faith, in which we become partakers together of the heavenly union in Christ Jesus our Lord, our Fellowship being with the Father and with the Son; & in it one with another in the bond of peace and love. And we have been made thankful in feeling a measure of the presence of him who is the crown of all our religious assemblies, and who has declared, "Without me ye can do nothing." And although there are many departures from the simplicity and purity of our profession, as disclosed to us by accounts received at this time, which have been cause of much sorrow, yet we are comforted in a persuasion that the foundation of God standeth sure, that the Truth is unchangeable, and that there is still a concern to walk in it, as becometh our profession. And we hope that through divine condescension, and faithful obedience to the dictates of Truth, we may be so furnished with that spirit of wisdom which first raised us up as a people, and continues us to the present time, as that we may be enabled to administer our Discipline in the Church, to the honour of the Great Head, and to the advantage of the body.

P. S. Our ~~Yearly~~ Meeting at this time has been large. We have been favoured with the company of a number of Friends from other Yearly Meetings.

With the salutation of love we remain, your friends and Brethren

Signed by direction, &c. Abraham Shearman, Junr Clk

1822.

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

We have again to acknowledge the wonted goodness of the great Preserver of men, in that we are permitted to meet in this our annual assembly. And while many of our hearts are warmed with gratitude to Him for the various blessings we received from his hand as the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe, we desire also to praise him yet more, in that in his loving kindness he has been pleased to provide and reveal unto the rational part of his creation, a means of reconciliation with him the God of their lives, through the mediation and intercession of Jesus Christ our gracious Redeemer. It has been a concern with us, that the minds of all might be possessed with an unshaken faith in this gracious provision. And some of our minds have been impressed with a belief, that as we in the simplicity of the Truth seek after and covet to know an establishment in this our blessed faith; that he who of old revealed unto Peter the knowledge of his dear Son our Lord, will not withhold the manifestations of his Holy Spirit to our minds, whereby we may witness this most desirable attainment.

We have, we trust, in some measure been made sensible, at this time, of the influence of Christian love, and therein can salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your last acceptable Epistle, which has been read among us, and furnished renewed evidence that we are one people, bound together by that tie which neither distance of place nor length of time can dissolve. This Nation has been large, and we have been favoured with the company of many of our Youth, for whom our hearts are solicitous that they may be preserved on the unshaken foundation, & that they may be prepared for the work of this day in the support of those blessed testimonies which we as a people believe ourselves called upon to bear.

We remain your friends and brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

In that love which unites the children of our heavenly Father, and brings them near one unto another, do we salute you at this time acknowledging the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the 5th. Month last, which has been read to our satisfaction. What great cause have we to put our confidence and trust in him who hath ever been near to protect and assist his humble

and

and dependent Children! May we all bow low before him in holy fear and in humble submission to his will as made known to us in the secret of the heart. — And may those who fill important stations in the Church dwell in the meekness of Wisdom, that they may be favored in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace. They will then be as wise masters to the honest inquirer after Truth and the ways of Zion, and will be enabled to say unto them, Come follow us as we have endeavoured to follow Christ. — And may the younger class be induced to yield to the visitations of Divine love wherein the way of truth and self-denial is laid before them, that so they may experience preservation from every hurtful thing, and be enabled to come up in the footsteps of the flock of the companions of Christ qualified to fill the stations of those who must shortly be removed from works to rewards.

With the renewed salutation of love, we remain

Your Friends and Brethren.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Junr Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina.

Dear Friends

(3) Feeling our minds influenced at this time with a measure of our heavenly Father's love, under a grateful sense thereof, we affectionately salute you. May we often be engaged to retire out of the cumbrous things of this world, sitting alone & keeping silence before the Lord, that we may experience his power to keep down those things that are in opposition to the coming of his kingdom, whereby his will may be done in all things, although sometimes we may like Jacob of old have to wrestle long for the blessing. While addressing you we feel our minds engaged on behalf of the beloved Youth, that they may dedicate their hearts to their Creator in the early watches of life, that he may be the first with them in the morning, that they may wait upon him in true silence, whereby the mind may be so turned towards him for help through the course of the day that the enemy may be defeated in his various attempts, that at the evening, according to his good pleasure, the heart may be filled with thanksgiving and praise.

We feel our minds led into sympathy with you for the oppressed Africans, and desire your encouragement to persevere in your endeavours on their behalf, whenever way may open.

Your brotherly communication of the 11th month last was duly received, and read to satisfaction.

We remain your Friends and Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting

Abraham Shearman Junr Clerk

1822.

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Permitted once more to meet in this capacity, we acknowledge the superintending care of him who led antient Israel by a cloud by day, and a fire by night; on whom they were dependent for help in every needful time, and who remains to be a never failing helper to all those who put their trust in him.

We have received Epistles from the Yearly Meeting of London, and also from those on this Continent: their contents afford encouragement to believe that Friends are concerned to repair to that "Rock of which Israel drank, and by the aid received therefrom, endeavouring to support those testimonies which they have been called to bear.

By accounts from our Quarterly Meetings we are apprised of deficiences which have sorrowfully affected us, and we desire that all who are remiss in the important duty of meeting with their brethren for the acknowledgment of the obligation they are under to him from whom every blessing flows, their accountability therefor and especially for the precious gift by which we are enabled to draw nigh unto him, may reflect that these are opportunities for improvement, of which we are accountable, and which are often seasons of refreshment to those who are concerned to seek first the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness thereof, and to depend on divine goodness for the addition of all things necessary. And, dear Friends, as a continued State of dependence is the only preservation from the wiles of an unwearied enemy, who is seeking whom he may devour, let us attend to the important injunction. "What I say unto you, I say unto all. Watch." Let us guard against a State of self confidence and a dependence on former attainments, remembering that "Blessed are the poor in Spirit," and that the condescension of Almighty goodness is manifested by the declaration through his Prophet, "to this man will I look that is poor, of a contrite spirit, and that trembleth at my word."

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana.

Dear Friends,

We received your acceptable Epistle of last year, and we comforted in the belief, that a concern prevails among you for promoting the great cause of Truth; and viewing you as a branch of the extended family, hope that we may from time to time

be made instrumental in encouraging each other in the discharge of our various testimonies.

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and on entering into the State of Society, our minds have been pained with many deficiencies; yet we are comforted in believing that there are many among the aged, the middle aged, and also the beloved Youth, who are bowed to the truth as it is in Jesus, and are concerned for its promotion. How animating is the prospect, when we behold those, who through a continued attention to the Spirit of grace, have been preserved from the many snares that are in the world, supported through the many trials and vicissitudes of life, and consoled in the hour of death.

We notice with peculiar satisfaction the encouraging prospect that appears among the beloved Youth with you; and feel an ardent solicitude that they may, by a faithful attention to the dictates of that principle with which their hearts have been visited, be preserved from following the lo! heres, and lo! theres, and established on that foundation which storms and tempests assail in vain.

It is grateful to us to learn that you are using your endeavours for the amelioration of the condition of the Indian natives.

In love we salute you, and are

Your Friends and Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid

by Abraham Shearman, Junr Clk

1823.

1823.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Rhode Island [illegible] and [illegible] beginning with Public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First day the 5th of the Sixth Month, 1823, and at Newport on Second-day morning the 16th. for Discipline.

Accounts having been received from all our Quarterly Meetings the Friends therein named as Representatives, are

For Rhode Island, Stephen Gould, Clk
Slade, Rowland Evans, Andrew Nichols Clerk Dower, Salem,
Enoch Pond, Isaac Peckett Junr Stephen A Chase, Samuel Nichols
Charles Chase, Sandwich, George Rowland, Francis Tabor, James Parker
Samuel Neil, Hezekiah Burrin, Abraham Lines, Benjamin Tucker.

Falmouth, Joel Read, Thomas Jones, William Hawkes, Edward
Cobb, Smithfield, Aquid Southwick, Josiah Howe, Silas Earl
Jonathan Fry, Rowland Robinson, Caleb Borough, Moses Hoyt
Joseph Rowland, Moses Comstock, Joseph Tabor, Lemuel Wardell
Meader, Benjamin Fry, Richard Jones.

All who are all present.

1823.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our Friends, John Mann, of London Grove Monthly Meeting, State of Penna; Henry Hull, of Stanford; James Hazard, of Cornwall, and John J. Wells, of Nine Partners Monthly Meeting, in the State of New York, who presented Minutes of their respective Monthly Meetings, expressive of unity with their Ministry and present prospects. — Richard Bernard, of Fallowfield Monthly Meeting, Pennsylvania, companion to our friend John Mann, is acceptably with us.

We have also the acceptable company of our friend Hannah G. Field, of New York, who presented a minute of unity and concurrence with her prospects.

The London General Epistle of last year, with acceptable corresponding Epistles from our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read in this Meeting. — Edward Cobb, John Wilbur, Benjamin Percival, Obadiah Dawes, Arnold Congdon, Thomas Fry, William Jenkins, William Almy, Rowland Green, Stephen A. Chase, David Rotman, Eber Fish, Daniel Otis, Arnold Buffum, Daniel Howland, and William Rotch, Jun. are named to take said Epistles into consideration; and if, they should open for it, prepare Essays to these Meetings, and present them at a future sitting.

All our Quarterly Meetings inform, that they have directed the payment of their respective proportions of Stock.

William Jenkins, Daniel Johnson, George Howland, Stephen Grinnell, Rowland Rathbun, Moses Brown, and Joshua Headley, are named a Committee to examine the State of the Treasury; propose such sum as it appears necessary to raise for the ensuing year, and name a Treasurer.

The Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting to continue and extend care toward the Penobscot tribe of Indians, made the following Report:—

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.

"The Committee appointed last year to extend a care to the Penobscot tribe of Indians, in the State of Maine, made them a visit in the ninth month last, and finding them mostly scattered abroad, repeated the visit in the first month; at which time were favored to meet with their Chief and many of the tribe, to communicate to them the object of our visit, and, in pursuance of the object of Friends, to promote their civilization and improvement, and increase the comforts of domestic life, to give them such advice as was opened for.

"There appears to have been some increase in the number of those whose attention is turned to the cultivation of their land, and also in the quantity of produce raised last year.

"Although there are difficulties to encounter in promoting the improvement of the condition of this neglected, but interesting class of our fellow creatures, yet we had the satisfaction to believe, that the prejudice of which they were possessed, and which seemed to arise from a fear

that our views were mercenary had much subsided, and a friendly disposition taken place, in confirmation of which, we have since received information from two of the Chiefs, that the whole tribe, which consists of about three hundred, has been consulted, and that they agree to attend to our advice, turn their attention more to the cultivation of their land, and endeavour to procure a living more from farming than hunting; and thanking Friends for what they have done, would be glad of future advice.

On behalf of the Committee,

Windham, 5mo. 1823. Edwd. Cobb.

which being considered, the attention of the Committee to the object of their appointment is satisfactory to us, and the information now received encouraging us to believe, that the further care of this work may be usefully extended, the Friends who were appointed last year, with the addition of Joseph Rowland are requested to attend that care, and to render such advice and assistance as may way open, and report the progress made in accomplishing the object of their appointment, at our next Yearly Meeting.

The Committees of the two last years are requested to present their accounts to the Committee on the State of the Treasury, for examination and allowance.

By the accounts now received, it appears, that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting united with Providence Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Obadiah Brown, (since deceased,) to the station of an Elder, and with Evenwick Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Joanna Brown to that station, and in the dismission of Rufus Rhoades therefrom.

That Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Hope Monthly Meeting in approving the publick Ministry of Alice Chase, and in the appointment of Cornelia Tucker to the station of an Elder — with Salem Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Miriam Newhall and Ruth Pickett, and with Sandwich in the appointment of Ruth H. Jones to the same station.

That Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with Hope Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Paul Wing — with New Bedford Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Francis Taber — with Dartmouth in the appointment of Isaac Wood to the station of Elders — and with New Bedford, in approving the publick ministry of Deborah Otis and Susannah Rowland.

Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met by adjournment.

The Representatives having proposed Abraham Sherman, Junr as Clerk, and Stephen A. Chase Assistant Clerk, their appointment as such is united with by the Meeting.

The Queries were read, with answers from all the subordinate Meetings, and the deficiencies therein manifested to our view, being exercising to many minds, led to much excellent counsel and pertinent advice, particularly in regard to the neglect of our meetings and the want of love and unity — with the expression of an earnest solicitude

1823.

pelled that we of the present day may so keep our Testimonies to encourage a succession of those who will be concerned to maintain unimpaired, testimonies designed to promote the cause of righteousness in the earth; and a feeling exhortation to the Youth, to dwell under the influence of that principle which will lead their minds from every thing of a hurtful tendency, and qualify them, as they yield obedience to it, usefully to fill the places which it must ere long devolve upon them to occupy.

The following Summary is meant to embrace the substance of the answers received:

With the exception of two or three Meetings (the neglect of which has been noticed) all of our Meetings have been regularly held; yet a want of concern duly to attend them is apparent, particularly as it respects those held in the middle of the week, and for discipline, and in some instances they are much, and it is to be feared, inexcusingly neglected. — Instances of sleeping continue to be noticed; & other unbecoming behaviour our Meetings appear to be mostly clear. — Many Friends appear to be concerned to preserve love and unity, yet in some instances, an harmonising together in the Truth is evidently wanting, and in others much deficiency is expressed. — Detraction, tho' measurably guarded against, appears to be too much indulged. — Care is generally taken to end differences. — Many Friends we believe are careful to bring up their children under their direction in plainness, and to restrain them from the perusal of pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation, and are exemplary herein; yet there is too much giving way to hurtful indulgences in these respects. — The Holy Scriptures, it appears, are read in the families of Friends; yet a fear is expressed, that they are not so frequently perused as would be best. — A general concern is prevalent to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes; but in some instances they are in too common use; and the unnecessary frequenting of places of public resort not sufficiently guarded against. — Moderation and temperance appears to be mostly practised on the occasions referred to. — The circumstances of the Poor receive attention. — A general care is manifest that proceedings with respect to marriage be properly conducted, yet all are not so careful herein as would be best; — deviations in marrying out, are under notice. — Departures from our testimony against War, in a few instances of a military nature, have claimed the attention of Friends where they have occurred. — A general care prevails duly to settle accounts; yet all are not sufficiently punctual to their engagements, and a few instances of failure in the performance of promises and in the payment of debts have occurred. — Friends are mostly careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances. — Care is generally taken to deal uprightly with offenders, yet accompanied with an acknowledgment of weakness and delay in some instances. — Judgment has been placed where it appeared necessary. — Our records are mostly attended to.

The Boarding School Committee made the following Report:

"That the School is under the government of the same Superintendents and Teachers as at the time of our last Report. The average number of Scholars has been about 70. Their general conduct and improvement in learning have been such, as to us satisfactory and encouraging to the Committee. Meetings for worship have been held up and as far as appears, in an acceptable manner. With a view to equalize the expense of sending Children to the School, the Committee have concluded to make an allowance of eight cents per mile, for travelling expenses to such Scholars as are sent from within the limits of Dover, Falmouth, and Valley Borough Quarterly Meetings, provided they remain six months or upwards at the School, and they have informed their Quarterly Meetings of their conclusion.

"The Committee again conclude to admit from each Mo. Meeting one Scholar for six months, or two Scholars three months each, free of expense.

"Since our last report two of the early Friends of the School, and Members of this Committee, Sylvester Weeks of Cranston, and Obadiah Brown of Providence, have been removed by death. Their executors have before the Committee items of their respective Wills, bearing liberal bequests in aid of the funds of the School, and promotion of its object, an abstract of which will accompany this Report.*

"The Executors of Lydia Hillingsat, late of Providence, deceased, also presented to the Committee, an article of her last Will, by which a bequest is made to certain Friends in trust, to aid the Charitable fund of the Institution — a copy of which will be transmitted, with the abstract above referred to.*

"It is thought very desirable to the Committee that the benefit of these and other similar donations that have already been made, or that may hereafter be made to the School, or to the Yearly Meeting in its behalf, may be permanently secured to it for the benevolent object intended by the Donors, in such way as may, in their opinion, most effectually conduce to the Society in the management of the concerns, connected and be attended with safety to all concerned. Which is submitted to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting.

Signed in behalf of the Committee,

Providence, 2d of 5th mo. 1835. Rowland Greene,
Asa Pathbone."

Which being read is accepted to us. And the time of the Committee it being satisfactory to this Meeting, the Friends who be concluded it [illegible] year past, with the exception of Sylvester Weeks and Obadiah Brown deceased, are continued to act in conjunction with such Committee as may be appointed by the Yearly Meeting of Women Friends, in superintending the concerns of the Institution for the year ensuing.

It appearing desirable that some additions be made to the Committee of Management, Edward Thomas, Rowland Greene, Benj. Trafton and Rowland Greene are named to consider of and before such additions, and report at our next sitting.

Adjd to the 3d hour tomorrow afternoon.

* For an abstract of the Will of Sylvester Weeks, see page [illegible] minutes.

1823.

17th day. Met by adjournment.

James Rowland, Nicholas Condon, William Hadley, Jno. Rowland, William Jenkins, Stephen A. Shaw, Joseph Metcalf, and Noah Arnold, being proposed by the Committee named yesterday afternoon, are appointed in addition to the Boarding School Committee.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read; and the attention thereby manifested to the concerns of Society that have come before it, were satisfactory to this Meeting, — the same Friends who composed it for the past year, with the exception of Sylvester Wickes, Obadiah Brown, and Robert Taylor, deceased, are continued, to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, for the year ensuing.

An essay of "An act to authorise and enable the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England to receive, hold, manage, and dispose of Property for Charitable and benevolent uses" — being referred to us by the Meeting for Sufferings; which has had undue consideration, the adoption of some regular and legal mode of receiving and vesting donations made to the Society, with a more particular view to the greater security and more ready management of the Fund of the Boarding School — and the subject having been discussed at some length; it is referred back to that Meeting for its mature and deliberate examination; with liberty to act therein as it may deem best; and with authority to apply to the Legislature of the State on our behalf, when they in its judgment shall see fit, to procure the passage of such act as may meet the views of Friends

Adjourned to the 10th inst. tomorrow morning.

18th day. Met by adjournment.

The Committee appointed to examine the State of the Treasury, and for other purposes, made the following Report:

"The Committee appointed to examine the State of the Treasury and for other purposes, report, that the Book of the late Treasurer not being present, they are unable to ascertain precisely the state of the Treasury — but as near as they can ascertain, by a comparison of the authorised expenditures of last year, with the sum directed to be raised by the Meeting, there will be a balance due to the Treasury of $129.$\frac{21}{100}$, which sum includes the amount due the Committee for expenses accruing in visiting the Penobscot tribe of Indians — they therefore propose, that 800 dollars be raised: to meet this balance, and for the expenses of the ensuing year; and propose William Almy as Treasurer — all which is submitted.

On behalf of the Committee,

Wm Jenkins."

6mo. 18th.

in conformity with which, William Almy is appointed Treasurer; and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him their respective proportions of 800 dollars the sum proposed to be raised for the service of this Meeting, in the same proportions as last year, viz.

Rhode-Island	240.—	Smithfield	80.—
Salem	80.—	Vassalboro'	214.—
Sandwich	309.33	Dover	40
Falmouth	25.67		$800.—

Friends of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting inform, that they have attended to the request of the House in which we were met as requested last year, and that the expence incurred what was then paid has been defrayed by individual subscription.

It is now proper necessary, prior to another year, to make entire contract with, and give discharges to the Executors and Administrators of Friends deceased, who have made donations to this Meeting, to the Treasurer of the School Fund, or otherwise, with this Meeting would take cognizance or have control of said donations, this Meeting for Sufferings is authorised to enter into any such contracts, and make any such agreements or compromises as to them may appear just and equitable, and more particularly to enter into such contract or instrument with the Executors of Obadiah Brown deceased, to receive the sum of fifty thousand dollars as principal, instead of the three thousand dollars annuity given by him, and generally to give any acquittances or discharges which may be necessary on behalf of this Meeting, relative the said Donations; and to invest any Sums received, in such way as they may deem most expedient.

Adjourned to ½ past 3, this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Met by adjournment.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read at this and the previous sitting, and after being considered, and receiving some alterations were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk with such further verbal alterations as may ab'ead necessary, and transmitted to those meetings.

An Epistolary Communication to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, was read, directed to be transcribed, and forwarded to those Meetings; with such extracts from the Report of the Boarding School Committee, and such other minutes as may be found necessary.

The Clerk is directed to endorse on the minutes of our Friends from abroad that their company and services have been acceptable to us.

Having in the various sittings of this Meeting been enabled, through Divine goodness, to feel an extension of that love which we are sensible can alone preserve us as a people; and under the influence of which the covenant that have come together we have solaced in a good degree of brotherly condescension and kindness, — grateful for this renewed opportunity of acknowledging that we are not forsaken by him who is the alone head of the Church, we conclude, proposing to meet again in this Island, in the sixth month next.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Thos. Shearman, Jr. Clk.

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1823.

Extracts from Wills

of Thomas Folsom, Sylvester Hicks, Obadiah Brown, and Lydia Tilling hast, accompanying report of School Committee —— 1823. ——

Paragraph of Thomas Folsom's Will, dated 31st of 3d Month, 1820.

Fifth "The remainder of my money, which I may have on hand or at interest, at my decease, after paying all my just debts, funeral charges, and cost of settling my Estate, I will and order to be paid to any person or persons duly authorized to receive the same for the encouragement and support of the Rhode Island Yearly Meeting School Institution, at Providence."

In the 10th article of Sylvester Hicks' Will is the following gift. "I give to the Yearly Meeting of the People called Quakers in New England my farm in Comfort that I bought of Clarke and Nightingale, the neat income of which to be appropriated in aid of the charitable fund of the Boarding School established by the Friends in Providence, to them the said people called Quakers, and to their successors in the same faith forever."

In the 4th item of Obadiah Brown's Will is the following legacy:

"I give to my honoured Father Moses Brown, as Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting of Friends School Fund, or to his successor that may hereafter be appointed by the Meeting for Sufferings, in the capacity of said School Committee, an annuity of three thousand dollars, and hereby authorise and direct my Executors to pay the same in one year after my decease to the said Treasurer for the time being, whether the School is in operation or not. That the same be a part of the Fund of said Institution, to be advised for the purpose of procuring an establishment in land, buildings, and furnishing the necessary accommodations, paying the salaries of Instructors and assistants, and also the board of the Scholars and families of the Institution, nearly similar to Friends' Boarding School of the Yearly Meeting of New York, at Nine partners, or at Westtown in Pennsylvania, where the children members of our religious Society of Friends with such others as may be thought best to be admitted, may receive a religious guarded education, free from the contaminating influence of the vain fashionable world, which leads young minds from the simplicity of the Truth and that meek and quiet spirit exhibited by our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, whom we profess to follow."

5th Item. "I also give, after the decease of my Wife, Dorcas Brown, the annuity of three thousand dollars more to the aforesaid Institution, making up the sum of six thousand dollars, to be paid by my Executors in one year after the decease of my Wife, and annually afterwards to the Treasurer of the said School Fund, for the time being, for the purpose of subscribing and perpetuating the Institution aforesaid."

Another

(Another Item (of Obadiah Brown's Will.) "I give all my Books and Maps to the Yearly Meeting School, after the decease of my Wife, or when the School shall be got under way, provided she is consenting thereto, how soon soever the School may be in operation."

This will was made in 1814, before the establishment of the present School, he therefore in a Codicil, made on the 14th day of the 10th month, 1822, the afternoon before his decease, which was about half after 12 o'clock at night, or the 15th in the morning. In which Codicil is the following paragraph relation hereto.

"I hereby confirm the legacy given in my Will for the Yearly Meeting School, which was not then located, but now under successful operation on the lot given by my Father for that purpose, to the Institution there established, to be and remain for the use of said establishment forever.")

The following is the fourth item of the last Will and Testament of Lydia Billinghast late of Providence deceased:

"I give to my friends Moses Brown, William Almy, and Obadiah Brown, as Trustees in trust, to be held as a Fund for the use of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, one thousand dollars, the interest or income of which to be applied by the said Meeting or their Committee, for the education of the children of poor Friends belonging to said Meeting, in their Boarding School in this town of Providence, forever."

[Copy, compared with the abstract. — R. W.]

To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings hereto belonging.

Dear Friends,

In entering upon the state of Society, as exhibited to us in the answers to the Queries, a deep exercise has spread over our minds, and living desires are raised, that all under our inspection may be engaged, above all other considerations, to sink down in their minds to the gift of divine grace manifested in each and every one, and wait for its tendering operation upon the soul, whereby, (as we are encouraged to believe) renewed qualification would be experienced for the discharge of our several religious duties. — A deep sense of our dependence upon the gracious dispensations of Heaven for preservation from the multiplied temptations and trials to which we are subject, ought to encourage and animate us in the discharge of the solemn duty of diligently attending our religious meetings, and look up when assembled, to gather to the true resting place, the Rock of Ages, humbly and reverently to wait upon the Lord for a renewal of strength which cometh from him alone. And may none among us make it a matter of convenience merely thus to meet; but with reverence and fear assemble ourselves together at our stated times of meeting, remembering that thereby we bear,

1823. bear a noble testimony of our belief in the great truths of the Gospel, and of devotion to its cause.

May it be the earnest endeavour of every one to seek after "the unity of the Spirit, which is the bond of peace," and, (to revive the language of one of our ancient worthies,) "as we all profess the life of God to be the Author of our life and well-being, it becomes us all to differ in nothing, but every one to depart from that which leads to evil." May we be especially careful in all our movements, to do nothing which may tend in any manner to lay waste or destroy the unity of the body, remembering that we are members one of another, and however in private judgment we may scruple or have some doubt respecting the propriety of one of its conclusions, yet we believe that peace of mind will be obtained in submitting our own judgment, — indeed, the very nature of society requires this submission, for such is the frailty of our natures, such our liability to err in judgment, that we may well distrust ourselves, and be concerned not to be found opposing the wholesome order of the Church — We are especially solicitous, that in our publick assemblies for divine worship, there may nothing appear tending to disunity or disorder; but that with all the ability of mind, we may be concerned therein, rightly to perform this interesting and solemn duty. And may there not be a disposition in any to follow the example of some to whom the Apostle was concerned to write; who said, "I am of Paul, and I of Apollos and I of Cephas and I of Christ." Paul saith the Apostle, "Is Christ divided, was Paul crucified for you, or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" — To dear Friends, he is One, and as we are concerned to come unto him, with a willing mind, and wait upon him, we shall all be baptized into one body, and become members of the true Church, of which he is head.

It is painful, to us to perceive, that notwithstanding our repeated endeavours, the use of spirituous liquors is not wholly confined to medicinal purposes; but that some still in profession with us, make too common use of them. — Such we are concerned to address; that they may yet more deeply consider the awful risk they are venturing; that they may pause upon the brink of that precipice, from which so many thousands of the human race have precipitated themselves, and in time take warning. — Are you aware, dear Friends, how many of the comforts and blessings, even of this life, you forego by an indulgence in this dangerous practice? Are you aware how much of your usefulness among your fellow-men you are sacrificing? We entreat you, poorer serious upon these things, and if yet you may, escape for your lives; look not behind you; "Look not upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its colour in the cup, for at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

Thus

May we all be concerned to labour together for the help one of another, and with meekness counsel one another, and watch over one another for good, and when one is overtaken in a fault, those who are spiritual, endeavour in meekness for his restoration. But we entreat you, let not any of our precious testimonies, sealed to us by the sufferings of our worthy predecessors, fall to the ground.

Finally, farewell. Peace be to the Brethren, and love, with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clk.

Epistles.

To the Yearly Meeting of London

Dear Friends,

Many minds in this our annual assembly have been encouraged in having renewedly to believe that our blessed Lord is still graciously disposed to favour the assemblies of his people, to be their Teacher and Leader, according to his declaration recorded in the Holy Scriptures: "I am the Lord thy God that teacheth thee to profit, that leadeth thee by the way in which thou oughtest to go;" and desires accompany our minds that strict obedience may "in his devoted fear and word, seem to hath devised, if we are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you."

Under a renewed sense of the overshadowing of that love which continues to be the distinguishing badge of discipleship, we again address you, with desires that he who hath made us to feel one for another, may in his adorable goodness continue to strengthen the bonds of union and christian fellowship, which have hitherto preserved us a united people, that so we may have a continued evidence in our various allotments, that however separated by distance, we are yet but one flock, of whom Christ Jesus our Lord is the only Shepherd.

We acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of last year; we have also at this time received Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings on this Continent; and it is grateful to us to receive from our distant Brethren these continued tokens of remembrance and regard.

In the accounts received at this time from our several Quarterly Meetings, we have had cause to mourn on account of the deficiencies which are amongst us. Yet notwithstanding some may depart from the Truth, yet we are assured that "he that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved." And we are comforted in believing that numbers of our below Youth are coming forward in the ranks of righteousness, and will, under the forming hand of the Lord, if they remain faithful to his divine law, be prepared to give their support to his own blessed cause.

Since last year, divers of our dear Brethren, who have long been wont to meet with us on these occasions, and who from

1823. from time to time evinced their love and zeal for the cause of truth and righteousness in the right administration of Discipline, and the promulgation of sound doctrine — have been removed from works to rewards.

Our Boarding School continues to afford an encouraging prospect of usefulness.

This Meeting has been for some time past engaged in endeavours to assist the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, in promoting their civilization, and increasing their comforts of domestic life. — And from the report of our Committee, we are encouraged still to continue our care.

With the salutation of our love, we remain

Your Friends & Brethren;

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia

Dear Friends,

The ancient principles of our Society, in conformity with the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures, have appeared renewedly precious in our view; and it hath been our fervent desire, that those principles may continue to be regarded by us, and by those who may succeed us, as a true standard of Faith and practice. The safety, stability, and usefulness of our Society, and we may add, the peace of the individual Members who compose it, we believe eminently depend upon a firm, yet humble walking in conformity with this faith and this practice.

Our Meeting has been as large as usual, and favoured to conduct the business related to the important concerns of Society, in condescension and harmony.

The situation of our Boarding School affords us reason to believe that it has been and will continue to be useful.

Our attention for several years has been turned to endeavour to render assistance to a tribe of Indian natives, called the Penobscot Tribe, and we have some reason to believe, from the report of our Committee, that their situation will be improved by their care and labour.

Your acceptable epistle of fourth month last has been received, and we are solicitous that brotherly love, and a lively concern for the prevalence of the Truth and the ways of it, may continue to be cultivated. We have hitherto been greatly favoured to be one people wherever scattered, united by the same faith, and of course walking by the same rule. It is our fervent desire that this unity in the faith, and this harmonious walking together may continue to be mercifully witnessed;

that

that the our united endeavours may be directed by the furtherance of the cause of Truth and righteousness in the earth.

With desires that grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ may rest upon us, we bid you affectionately Farewell.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of our Meeting aforesd.

Abraham Sherman, Jr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of New York.

Dear Friends,

We have again been favoured to meet in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, and having, we trust through the continued goodness of the Shepherd of Israel, who has been graciously pleased to favour us with the overshadowing of his presence, been enabled to transact the important concerns of Society in much harmony; under a sense whereof we acknowledge that of ourselves we are unable to promote the cause of righteousness; but that it is only as we wait at Jerusalem the quiet habitation, with a single eye to the teachings of the heavenly Master, that we can, in any way, be qualified to labour to his acceptance, and our own peace of mind.

Though the accounts from our several Quarterly Meetings manifested a sorrowful departure in divers instances, from that circumspect watchfulness to which the purity of our profession leads, yet we are confirmed in the belief, that the testimonies which our early predecessors were engaged, and enabled, through much suffering, to hold forth to the world are still precious in the view of many in the present day; and that many in the younger walks of life are yielding obedience to the manifestations of Divine grace secretly made known in their hearts. We are anxious by solicitous that these, whether among you or us, may receive all due encouragement from those more advanced, as well by a uniform, circumspect example, as by the excellence of precept; that our daily walk in life, and habits of quiet retirement in our families, may evince to them that we have no greater joy, than their advancement in the footsteps of the righteous; that they may be enabled to discharge with fidelity the important duties soon to devolve upon them.

We notice, with peculiar satisfaction, that a concern still exists among you to plead the cause of the enslaved Africans: We believe, so long as the evil exists in any part of our land, we are called upon, by the feelings of humanity,

as

1823. as well as by the precepts of the Gospel, to engage every effort in our power to ameliorate their condition, and watch every opportunity to enlighten the publick mind on their behalf, that the reproach brought upon the Christian name by the iniquitous practice, may cease to exist, and they be restored to the common rights of the Human family.

It appears, by the report of our School Committee, that the state of our Boarding School at Providence is such, as to afford encouraging hope, that the concern which has long existed in this Yearly Meeting for the promotion of the guarded education of our youth, will be blessed to the rising generation.

The reading of your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last, as well as others from the Meetings with which we have correspondence, has produced an interchange of the feelings of brotherly love, under a sense of which, we have craved the blessing of preservation, both for ourselves and our dear absent brethren; that whether we are destined to move in public or in private life, we may have a single eye to Him who has allotted us our portion of labour, and who, as we abide faithful, will ultimately gather us to the same fold, with the invitation of "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you."

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has renewed those feelings of brotherly love which we greatly prize; inasmuch as we have increased evidence that we are of one fold; united under the one great Shepherd Christ Jesus our Lord, who said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another" — and that this love may continue, how necessary that we be of the same mind, having "One Lord, one Faith, and one Baptism" — under the influence of which we shall experience that fellowship which can only result from "walking by the same rule and minding the same thing."

We are united with you in believing, that "this is a day and time in which great watchfulness and honest dedication of heart is called for;" and may we, dear Friends, often repair to the watch tower that we may be enabled to preserve our minds in righteousness; and by a frequent recurrence to first principles, endeavour so to have our minds stayed

in the ancient foundation the Rock of Ages; that we may, as you have desired, "be possessed not only of the form of Godliness, but the life and power thereof."

Our minds have been humbled at this season under a renewed sense of the goodness of our Heavenly Father; that he has again permitted us to meet in our annual assembly, wherein the important concerns of Society have been transacted in much love and condescension; confirming in our minds these truths: that He continueth to be merciful, and will sustain those who put their trust in Him. — And to his love and to the spirit of his grace "who died that we might live," we affectionately commend you, and are your Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Sheaman, junr. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

We have received your acceptable Epistle of last month, and in a measure of that love which unites the hearts of the followers of our blessed Lord, do we affectionately salute you, and inform, that our Yearly Meeting at this time has been favoured to transact the weighty concerns that have come before us, in a good degree of harmony and condescension.

We feel desires raised in our hearts, that we may labour to experience the Divine will increasingly to be done in us, whereby our own wills may become more and more resigned to what our Heavenly Father may require of us, or permit to come upon us, that although some of his dispensations may be trying, yet may they tend to engage us to wait upon him in humble fear, that we may experience our strength renewed in him — with a lively hope, that to them who love God, and who are making no secret reserves, all things shall work together for good. Dear Friends, it is a blessed thing to feel this great work of Christian redemption going forward in us, and may we not rest short of it.

With you, we feel deeply for the beloved Youth, that they may prefer Jerusalem to their chiefest joy, whereby they become the chosen vessels of Him, who is delighted with an acceptable sacrifice.

In love, we remain your Friends & Brethren

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

Abraham Sheaman, junr. Clk.

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1823.

To the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina

Dear Friends,

In the commencement of this our annual assembly many exercised minds we trust were refreshed by the Epistles received from our distant Brethren on different parts of this Continent and from those in London; and truly as we have witnessed at this time, to those who are travailing for the welfare of Zion, and are sometimes bowed down under discouragement, these testimonials of brotherly love are refreshing, and administer encouragement for perseverance in the way of well-doing.

The number of Friends attending this Meeting has been nearly as usual, and in our deliberations on the business that has come before us, we have been mercifully favoured to transact the concerns of the Church with condescension and harmony: and amidst the painful sensations which a departure from good order in some places has produced, we are still encouraged to believe that the Lord is graciously disposed to favour us, and has made way for a lively exercise in divers present, to labour for the support of our Discipline and our testimonies generally.

It is matter of consolation to us, to observe your attention to the situation of the people of colour, and our sympathy for them is such, that we desire Friends every where may let no opportunity of ameliorating the condition of this people, or of an individual of them, pass unimproved.

In Gospel love, we remain your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Having assembled at this time in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, condescending goodness has been with us, and under its influence we have in good measure experienced the salutary effects of being by one Spirit baptized into one body.

We have believed on hearing Epistles read from our distant brethren, that this time of communication, conducted in the spirit of the Gospel, may be numbered with those helps which tend to an increase of Christian fellowship. Your affectionate remembrance of our beloved youth, and interest in their welfare was peculiarly grateful to our feelings. We doubt not that many among them are yielding their hearts to the visiting influence of Divine love by which we are inclining to take Christ's yoke upon them. May this interesting class, upon whom must soon devolve the concerns of Society, be introduced thereunto, by an early remembrance of their Creator and that dedication of their will to his divine

will, which qualifies and prepares for usefulness in the Church.

The great Shepherd of Israel is still mindful of the flock, and graciously disposed to gather the wanderers to the fold: may a consideration of his goodness quicken us to diligence in his service. Although sensible that deficiencies exist among us, and that all are not preserved from listening to the delusive suggestions with which the mind is assailed by an unwearied adversary, yet it is consolatory to believe, that the foundation standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his.

Our meeting has extended some care to a tribe of Indian natives within its limits and is encouraged to believe we may be useful to them, by endeavours to promote their civilization, and an increase of the comforts of domestic life, and although we apprehend our progress herein will be slow, yet as a part of the community with which they yet live, as well as from our profession of the Christian name, we feel disposed to render them such aid as may be within our power.

We salute you in the love of our heavenly Father, which has been mercifully shed abroad in our hearts at this time, and commending all to that word of his grace which is able to build us up and to give an inheritance with those that are sanctified, remain your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Sherman, Jun. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana.

Dear Friends,

In a feeling of brotherly love we are again induced to address you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable epistle of the 11th month last. Being at this time renewedly sensible that the only source from which true qualification for usefulness one to another can be derived, is the love of God; as from this source alone can flow love unfeigned towards the brethren. We are desirous that all may seek for this blessed attainment. And we have been led to believe that the impressions of Truth respecting the attributes of the Divine character as they are made known to the soul through the influence of the Divine Spirit as well as exemplified by the records of his gracious dealings with his people in every age of the world, are calculated most effectually to engage and secure our love to our heavenly Father. For what soul is there, that is not, upon serious reflection upon his abundant mercies, in some measure warmed with love and gratitude towards Him, that does not feel that He is worthy of its most heartfelt devotion; especially in considering that He so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but should have everlasting life, and that a knowledge of this blessed provision of his mercy hath been revealed to the ancients, and transmitted to us through the medium of the Holy Scriptures.

1823. Scriptures, and confirmed to the true believer by the work and operation of the Divine Spirit upon the heart.

The promotion of the cause of Truth and righteousness in the earth, must ever be an object of solicitude with such as are actuated by this precious principle, and worthy their best exertions and most persevering efforts. It was for the promotion of this cause, as we believe, that our early predecessors in the same faith were induced to embody themselves into a religious Society, and were made willing to suffer the contumely and persecution which were so largely allotted them. May we their successors be encouraged by their shining example to labour faithfully and fervently in the same work. — And although there may appear cause of exercise to the truly concerned, from the deficiency that exists within our own borders, yet let that not discourage us, but rather incite to more diligent engagement of mind, so that the influence of our exertions for the cause we have espoused may not only be felt within our own Society, but extend itself to those around us.

The cause of suffering humanity must ever claim the sympathy of the truly devoted servant of Christ, the influence of his glorious example must ever animate us to extend a hand of help to the afflicted. — We know of no class of our fellow-men who from the wrongs they have suffered, and the degradation of their present state, have stronger claims upon our sympathy, than the oppressed enslaved Africans; — and we notice with satisfaction, that Friends among you feel a lively interest in their welfare; may that interest increase, and may no opportunities be lost of pleading the cause of this injured race.

We especially deprecate the introduction of the evils and miseries of slavery into any section of our country, where its baleful influence has been as yet unfelt; where the mournful cry of the bereaved mother or the disconsolate wife torn from the child of her bosom or the partner of her sorrow; has never yet been uttered, and where the awful judgments consequent upon so great evils have not as yet been provoked. May no exertions be spared, where they can be used with any prospect of success, to avert so great an evil. One powerful argument which occurs on this subject is, that the wise and the good of every country where slavery exists, deplore it as an evil, and would rejoice that it were done away.

Let us not now shrink from a work in which our Society has long been engaged, at a time when the people of the nations, both of Europe and America, seem to be more feelingly alive to the injustice and cruelty of slavery than perhaps at any former period, but let us join our best endeavours with those who may be disposed to advocate this cause, in circumscribing its miseries, endeavouring by all means in our power to ameliorate its sorrows.

What more animating incentive, what more powerful inducement can we have in the pursuit of any object, than that held up to our view — as the certain reward of well meant and persevering exertions in such a cause: "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever."

Our Meeting at this time has been large, and in the transaction of the concerns of Society, we have been favoured, as we trust, with the overshadowing of divine love, and much harmony and brotherly condescension has been witnessed; and under a feeling of undiminished regard for our distant Brethren, we salute you, and are your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

Abraham Sheaman, Junr. Clerk.

1824.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends, held on Rhode Island for New England, beginning with Public Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First day the 13th of the Sixth Month 1824, and at Newport on Second day morning, the 14th, for Discipline.

Accounts being received from all our Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named be Representatives, are — For Rhode Island Andrew Nichols, Jonathan Dennis, David Earle, William Reynolds, David Pulsifer, Junr. Thomas Wilbur, Arnold Congdon — For Salem Isaac Pickett, Junr. Jabez Nichols, Esther Newhall, Thomas Rice, Thomas Davis, 2nd Jno Jay — Sandwich, Joel Aiken, Prince Fisher, Junr. Jesse Gardner, Samuel Tucker, William Rotch, Junr. Stephen Hoxie — Dartmouth, William Cobb, Stephen Jones, Noah Reed, Wm. Purinton — Smithfield, Israel Southwick, Thomas Jay, Rowland Rathbun, Seth Riley, John Osborne, Uxbridge, Moses Cheever, Jesse Aldus Taber, Moses Bow, Samuel Foster, Moses Thompson — Dover, Benjamin Jay, Richard Shane, Joshua Meader, and John Brown — who are all present but one.

We have at the present time, the acceptable company of our esteemed friends Isaac Stephenson and William Forster, Junr. of Great Britain, who produced satisfactory Certificates of unity with their ministry and present religious engagements — the former, from Darlington Monthly Meeting, held in the 3d month, Durham Quarterly Meeting, held in the 4th, and the County Meeting of Ministers and Elders, held in London, in the 5th Month 1823 — and the latter, from the Monthly Meeting of Shaftesbury and Sherborne, held at Shaftesbury, the Quarterly Meeting of Dorset and Hants, held at Poole both in the 4th Month, 1819; and from the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, held in London, in the 5th month of the same year. We have also at this time, the acceptable company of our esteemed friends William Jackson, of New Garden, Pa. Monthly Meeting, Chester County, Pennsylvania; and William Evans, of the Southern District Pa. Meeting, in Philadelphia — and of John Paul, Companion to our friend William Forster, junr. and Joseph Edmundson, Companion to our friend William Evans. Who produced satisfactory minutes from their respective Monthly Meetings.

The London General Epistle, of the last year, with acceptable corresponding Epistles from our friends of the Yearly Meeting

1824. Meetings of London, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, were read at this sitting, and William Almy, Obadiah Davis, Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, Matthew Purinton, Edward Cobb, Stephen A. Chase, Richd Dame, Thomas Ivy, John Wilbur, Benjamin Percival, James Bassett, Junr, Noah Reed, Peter Osborne, and Abner Shearman, are named to take said Epistles into consideration, and as way may open for it, prepare essays to those Meetings, and present them at a future sitting.

All our Quarterly Meetings inform, that they have directed their respective proportions of Stock to be paid to our Treasurer.

William Slade, Daniel Johnson, Seth Russell, William Purinton, Walter Allen, John Brown, and Samuel Foster, are named a Committee to settle with the Treasurer, propose a Sum proper to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and name a Treasurer — to report at a future sitting.

We are informed by Salem Quarterly Meeting, that it has united with Salem Mo. Meeting in approving the publick Ministry of Hannah Hosier, and with the same Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Charles Chase and Daniel Johnson to the station of Elders, and in displacing Patrick Purinton and Keziah Purinton from said Station — by Sandwich, that it has united with New Bedford Mo. Meeting in the conclusion that Elizabeth Redman and Mary Potter, are disqualified for the station of Elders — by Smithfield, that it has united with Smithfield Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Hannah Smith to the station of an Elder — and by Wrentham, that it has united with Salem and Leeds Mo. Meetings, in the appointment of Hepsibah Ratcliffe and Peleg Peckham, and with Nassaboro Mo. Meeting, in that of Hannah Hacker and Lydia Pope, to the same station.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, met by adjournment.

The Representatives having proposed Abraham Shearman, as Clerk and Stephen A. Chase as Assistant Clerk, their appointment is united with by the Meeting.

The Queries were read, with answers from our several Quarterly Meetings, which brot a deep feeling of exercise over many minds, and led to the expression of a lively concern for the preservation of our various testimonies in that feeling of redemption from the spirit of the world, through the influence of the Truth, in which they originated. The deficiency manifest in the due attendance of our religious Meetings was affectingly to mane; and a diligent pathetic care towards Friends in remote situations and members of small Meetings, was feelingly

recommended to the attention of Monthly and Quarterly Meetings as well as to individuals who feel concerned for the promotion of the cause of Truth; and Friends in such situations, when unable from peculiar circumstances to meet with their Brethren for the interesting purpose of publick Divine worship, were encouraged to sit down in retirement before the Lord, in their own families. A State of watchfulness in Friends, when sitting in our Meetings for business, was also feelingly recommended, that they may wait to know what is required at their hands, and be enabled to move in that meekness of wisdom, which will give efficacy to their labours in promoting the objects of that Christian Discipline, which it is fully believed was established among us in the ordering of divine Truth. Faithfulness in the great duty of admonition was urged upon the attention of Friends, whether standing in that relation toward their fellow members which would seem to render it their more peculiar province, or as individuals who are brought to feel for the preservation of those who they apprehend are slipping aside, or falling short of that to which the Truth would lead — with desires that such may attend to the secret and gentle intimations of the Spirit of Christ in their own minds, prairtive to such services; and seek for a fitness rightly to labour with others in the watering spirit of love — and that should they meet with their peculiar trials and sufferings, that they may remember, that a blessing is attached to those who are found worthy to suffer for the cause of Truth; and thus be encouraged to hold on their way.

A solicitude was felt, that Parents may seek for that qualification that will enable them rightly to watch over the minds of their Children, to guard them against the snares & temptations, the spirit, the maxims and fashions of the world; that they may avail themselves of opportunities when their minds are tender and susceptible of impressions, to plead with them in the authority of restraining love; and that Children may there, with the feeling of filial regard, the fear of offending a religious Parent, and the necessity of obedience to that principle implanted in their minds, the gentle intimations of which are often felt at a very early age; and as given heed to, will preserve from the snares of death, and enable us to say with one formerly, should we attain to advanced life: "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." And that all of every class, who are rightly concerned, may so be kept alive in the Truth, and a feeling engagement of mind for their own advancement in the path of self-denial, that the influence of their example may become widely diffused, and they "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour."

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The following Summary is meant to embrace the substance of the answers to the Queries, viz.

With the exception of two small Meetings, the non-attendance of which was occasioned by the inclemency of the weather, and bodily infirmities of some Friends, all our Meetings have been duly held; and regular attendance of them, and particularly those held in the middle of the week, is upheld in a considerable number of our Members. — With the exception of some instances of sleeping, which continue to be noticed, they are mostly clear of other unbecoming behaviour. — Love and unity appear to be in a good degree maintained, yet in some instances they are much wanting. — Detraction is guarded against by many Friends, but not sufficiently discountenanced in all. — Care has been taken to end differences, though not so seasonably in some instances as would have been best. — Many Friends we believe are careful to bring up those under their direction in plainness, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation, and are exemplary herein, while others are too much giving way to hurtful indulgence in these respects, and in some a good example is wanting. The Holy Scriptures it appears are frequently read in most Friends' families. — Friends are generally careful to avoid the improper use of spirituous liquors, and the unnecessary frequenting of places of publick resort, yet not without exceptions under notice; and in a few instances it appears that spirituous liquors are made a common use of. — Moderation on the occasions referred to appears to be generally maintained. — The circumstances of the poor are attended to. — Friends are mostly careful in regard to marriage; yet all are not sufficiently guarded in their proceedings. — Our testimony against war appears to be generally maintained; yet a few instances of bearing arms have occurred, and have claimed the care of Friends. — There appears to have been some deficiency in a timely inspection and settlement of accounts, which has had an extension of care. — Friends are generally careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances. — While our records are generally attended to, an extension of further care appears to be necessary. — A few removals without Certificate, most of which are under notice. — Care is generally taken to deal with offenders as queried after, yet not without delays in some instances. — Endeavours are used to place judgment accordingly to discipline.

Adjourned to the 3d hour tomorrow afternoon.

15th day. Met by adjournment.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

16th day. Again met by adjournment.

An individual having taken a seat in this Meeting, at our last sitting, who is not entitled to the privilege of sitting with us, and having declined, after being frequently requested, to withdraw; Friends after patiently waiting the result, concluded to adjourn to the present time, without entering upon the business that would otherwise have come before us at that sitting.

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our esteemed friend Sarah Cobbins, of New-York, a Certificate of unity with her ministry and present visit among us, from the Mo. Meeting of Friends of that City, was read at this sitting.

It being proposed by Friends of Smithfield Quarterly Meeting, that the time of that Meeting, which has heretofore been held at Leicester in the 11th month, be in future held in the same month at Northbridge, the proposed alteration is agreed to.

It being proposed by Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting that their select Meetings commence at the 2d hour in the afternoon, instead of the 11th in the morning, on the days on which they are now held; the subject of such proposed alteration is referred back to that Meeting, to be brought up at another time, if Friends on further consideration, should think it best. And the Clerk is directed to furnish copies of these Minutes.

The Committee appointed to aid a Tribe of Indian Natives in the State of Maine, in securing to themselves an increased participation in the comforts of civilized life, made the following report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.

The Committee to visit the Penobscot tribe of Indians, made them a visit in the twelfth month last. There appeared to us to have been some additional attention to the cultivation of the land; and an increase of the produce thereof to those whose attention is turned that way: and it seemed also that some were inclined to have more permanent houses for their accommodation.

Although the way did not seem to be open for much to be done at that time, yet in reflecting on the subject, we have been induced to think that in the event of their endeavours to obtain more comfortable dwelling houses it would be well for Friends to furnish them with some of the materials, which will both assist them and gain their confidence.

Their treaty with the Government, provides for their being furnished with a suitable person to aid them in Agriculture, for which we have a hope will in some measure be attended to.

On behalf of the Committee,

Edw.d Cobb.

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which Report being considered is acceptable to Friends and Moses Brown, Edward Cook and Noah Hood are named to extend such further care in promoting the objects contemplated as may appear for, and report at our next Yearly Meeting.

The Treasurer is requested to pay to the Committee of last year, the sum of 48 dollars, being the amount of expenses incurred by them.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read; and the attention thereby manifested to the concerns that have come before that Meeting, is satisfactory to this.

We appoint Benjamin Freeborn, William Almy, Andrew Nichols — Eastes Newhall, Isaac Bassett, Jun. John Tage — Cornelius Howland, Francis Taber, James Tucker — Stephen Jones, William Rotch, Edward Cobb — Seth Willey, Rowland Rathbone, Jr. Obrone — Samuel Taber, Mord Tucker, Cyrus Swanson — Richd. Mowe, Joshua Cushing, and Joshua Reader — to prepare, and present at a future sitting, the Names of such Friends as they consider suitable to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's Accounts, and for other purposes, made the following Report:

"Agreeably to appointment, we have settled the Treasurer's Accounts, and paid in his hands fifty-one dollars 6 cts. and propose raising for the ensuing year, seven hundred dollars; apportioned to the several Quarters the same as last year — and also propose William Almy for Treasurer.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Walter Allen."

Newport, 6mo 15, 1824.

which is acceptable to us. It is concluded to raise seven hundred dollars for the service of the ensuing year, as proposed. — William Almy is appointed Treasurer, — and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him their respective proportions of the above sums, viz. — Rhode Island 210. — Salem 70. — Sandwich 210. 67 — Falmouth 233 — Smithfield 70 — Nassaboro 21. — Dover 35. —

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon. —

Afternoon. — Met by adjournment.

Whereas by the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, that "an Act to authorize and enable the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England to receive, hold, manage, appropriate, and dispose of Property for Charitable, and Benevolent, and other purposes," was duly granted by the Legislature of Rhode Island, agreeably to the views of Friends at our last Yearly Meeting, said Act is accepted by this Meeting; and directed to be placed upon our Records; and the original, with the Certificate of its authenticity, deposited with our friend Moses Brown, as Keeper of the Yearly Meeting's Papers.

It further appearing by the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, to which Meeting was referred the subject of reprinting the Discipline, that it has concluded to have five hundred copies printed; and proposed to us the consideration of adding any other conclusions of the Yearly Meeting than those directed to be inserted since the Book was printed — the whole subject is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings now about to be appointed, to consider of, and arrange, such additional conclusions of this Meeting, now on record, as they may judge proper, and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The following 1824 Report of the Boarding School Committee was read, viz:

The Yearly Meeting Boarding School Committee report, that they have continued their attention during the past year, to the concerns of the Institution placed under their care, and feel encouraged to believe that the reasonable expectations of its friends in regard to its usefulness to the Children and Youth of the Society will be measurably realized.

Matthew and Betsey Surnton, the former Superintendants having expressed a desire to be released, the Committee have agreed with Enoch & Lydia Reed to take charge of the School in that capacity. The same Teachers are employed as at the time of our last report. The average number of Children at the School nine, been about ninety. Their general conduct and improvement have been satisfactory to the Committee.

It is again concluded, to admit from each Monthly Meeting one Child for six months, or two Children three months each, free of expense.

Our late friend Obadiah Brown having placed at the disposal of the Yearly Meeting a liberal bequest to the Institution, as appears by extracts from his Will accompanying our last Report, it has appeared to the Committee that most benefit would result to Society at large, from an appropriation of a portion of the fund to the defraying of a part of the expense of board and tuition. With this view the Committee propose, that after the 1st of 1st month next, Children may be admitted at the rate of sixteen dollars per quarter.

Providence, 7th of 5th Mo. 1824

On behalf of the Committee

Arnold Congdon,

Mary A. Robinson.

which, being acceptable to Friends the consideration of such discriminations, if any, as it may be thought proper to make in the admission of Children, and particularly as relates to an appropriation of the Income of Donations, consistent with the views of the Donors, and agreeably to their respective Wills, is referred to the determination of the Committee for the Government and superintendance of the School, now about to be appointed — subject to the future revision of this Meeting.

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We appoint William Hunt, Nathan Winter, Thomas Hoxton, Abiel Thurston Stephen Gould, Rowland Greene, & John Osborne to propose at our next sitting the Names of such Friends as they may considir suitable to constitute a Committee on the part of this Meeting, for the Government and Superintendance of the School for the ensuing year — and also to name a Treasurer of the School Fund.

Adjourned to the 8th hour tomorrow morning.

17th day. Met by adjournment.

School Committee.

1 Moses Brown,	William Hunt	Paul Tabor	Thomas Howland	
2. David Buffum,	Daniel Thurston,	Effingham Pearson	Wm Jenkins,	
3 Rowland Greene,	Benj[a] Freeborn	Wm Hazard	Moses Tanner,	
Royal Southwick	Abr[m] Shearman Jr	Moses Cooper,	Stephen A. Chase	
David Buffum Jr	Edw[d] Cobb	Abijah Chase	Elijah Collins	
Rowland Hathburn	Stephen Jones	Tho[s] Jno Dalton,	Walter Allen	
Benjamin Mott	Daniel Howland	Com[o] Howland,	Arnold Congdon	
John Osborne	Jon[a] Dennis	John Brown	Isaac Bassett, Jr.	
James Hoag	Stephen Gould	John Wilbur,	Joseph Metcalf,	
Wm Buffum Jr	Nicholas Congdon	Silas Bard,	Obed Arnold,	

and James Tucker,

are named, (to unite with such Committee as may be appointed by the Women,) to constitute a Committee for the Government and Superintendance of the Boarding School, and to act therein, for behalf of this Meeting, for the year ensuing. Fifteen of whom shall be considered a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting of the Committee — and said Committee are authorised to appoint out of their own number, such Sub-Committee as they may judge proper, to aid them in promoting the object of the Institution, under the direction of the general Committee.

Moses Brown is appointed Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting's School Fund, — and he is hereby authorised and requested to pay from time to time such sums arising from the Income of the Fund, as may be appropriated by the School Committee for the purposes of the Institution; and to exhibit his accounts to that Committee, for settlement, in order that a statement thereof may be annually reported to this Meeting.

This Meeting being informed that the Executors of the last Will and Testament of our late friend Obadiah Brown, deceased, are ready to pay the Legacy due to this Meeting, we appoint David Buffum, Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene, Jonathan Congdon, Walter Allen and Benjamin Freeborn, a Committee in trust, to receive of said Executors the said Legacy of fifty thousand dollars, with such Interest as may be due thereon, and give them in behalf of this Meeting, such Writing as will discharge them, their heirs, &c from all further demands of this Meeting, in regard to the

above sum; and when received, to pay the same over to the Treasurer of the School Fund, taking his receipt therefor, and report to this Meeting next year.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon — Met by adjournment.

The Committee appointed to propose suitable Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, presented the following Names, viz.

Meeting for Sufferings.

Moses Brown,	Stephen Jones,	Peleg Mitchell,	John R. Davis,
Daniel Buffum,	Moses Thurber,	Joshua Meader,	Wm. Jenkins,
Wm. Hunt,	Moses Dow,	Thomas Anthony,	Arnold Congdon,
Rowland Greene,	Isaac Bassett Jr	John Willis,	Jon.a Dennis
Thomas Howland	Estes Newhall	John Brown,	Stephen Gould.
Abm. Sherman Jr	Royal Southwick	Stephen A. Chase,	Daniel Buffum Jr
Benj.a Thurber.	Daniel Howland	Daniel Johnson	William Slade
Obadiah Davis	Walter Allen,	Mark Co[illegible],	Abijah Chase
James Tucker,	Richard Dame,	Thomas Fry,	Oliver Chase
Rowland Rathbun,	Francis Taber,	Benj.a Fry	
Edw.d Cobb	Wm. Robbins	Nicholas Congdon.	
Micajah Collins.	Cornelius Howland	John Cassons.	

which are united with, and they are appointed to constitute a Meet.g for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were at this and the previous sitting, and after being considered and amended, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such further verbal alterations as may appear necessary, and forwarded to those Meetings, signed by him on our behalf.

The Clerk is directed to forward copies of the minute on the State of Society, and other necessary Minutes to our Quarterly and M.o Meetings, and sign them on behalf of this Meeting.

Our beloved friends, Isaac Stephenson and Wm. Foster, of Great Britain, having in the course of their present religious visit to Friends and others in North America, attended nearly all the particular Meetings of Friends within the compass of this Yearly Meeting, as well as divers Meetings appointed among people of other religious Societies, have been acceptably with us at the present time — and produced satisfactory Certificates of unity and concurrence from their respective Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London. Their labours in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, have been much to the comfort and edification of Friends and others; their life, conversation, and doctrine corresponding with our holy profession. We feel much unity and sympathy with them in their religious engagements, and are desirous that when their labours of love in this country are accomplished, they may be favoured to return to their families and friends, with the reward of peace.

The company and services of our esteemed friends

Wm.

1824 William Jackson and William Evans, of Pennsylvania, have been acceptable to us at the present time; as has also the company of our friends John Paul and Joseph Rhoads.

The Clerk is directed to furnish our friends from abroad, with certificates or minutes, agreeably to ways proposed, and sign them on our behalf.

Having through the various sittings of this Meeting, experienced an extension of divine regard, under the influence of which we have been enabled to conduct the concerns of Society that have come before us in a good degree of brotherly love and condescension, gratefully acknowledging, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island in the 6th month next.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Abm. Sherman, Junr. Clk.

Epistles.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London.

Dear Friends.

Your very acceptable Epistle of last year has been received, which with your printed general Epistle, has been read in this Meeting to our comfort & and your sympathy and brotherly feeling on our behalf have administered encouragement to us. We desire reverently to acknowledge the condescension of the Lord Shepherd, who hath again permitted us to meet together and as we trust hath covered our minds in degree with a sense of his goodness — in which feeling our desire has been that all may be preserved alive in the Truth, and in the possession and exercise of true and living faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, both as to his ordained communication in that sufficient body, wherein he came to do the will of God, his Father, to make an offering of his precious life as a propitiation for our sins, — and as to his inward and spiritual appearance in the heart, where he graciously deigns to make himself known as a purifier and cleanser from all defilements, and a comforter and supporter, as we rely upon him, in every trial. And we are renewedly convinced, that as our minds are concerned to bow to the visitations of his grace and to yield obedience to the manifestations thereof in simplicity and humility, our strength will be renewed in him, so that we shall be enabled to hold this blessed faith in the great doctrine of redemption by Jesus Christ, without wavering. It is a day, as we are abundantly sensible, which calls loudly for the devoted, fellowers of the Lamb, to evince their love to him, and their humble reverence for his Divine character, and to acknowledge with gratitude

gratitude, the Lord's manifold mercies.

Your tender concern for the South among us as manifested in your Epistle has we trust affected them, and administered encouragement to them, in that they see, that although in some waves, and even nearly to fall, there are yet preserved among us as a people, those who are steadfastly bound to the support of the ever blessed cause; that there are yet standard bearers amongst us, even nursing Fathers in the Church, to whom they may yet look for counsel and encouragement.

We have been favoured at this time, with the company of many of our youngest brethren, and their deportment has encouraged the belief, that there are among them those who are disposed to come under the forming hand of Him who can alone fit and prepare them for usefulness in his church and service. That this class with us and you may be encouraged and animated to keep their attention steadily directed to their Holy Guide and heavenly Instructor, has been our renewed desire — that so, when the time shall arrive, which must shortly come, that the concerns of Society must devolve upon them, they may be qualified and disposed to support our Christian testimonies.

We have not been unmindful at this time of the cause of our oppressed African brethren, and although our way is not open for much active exertion, yet we rejoice at the exertions of our brethren on their behalf, and would offer our encouragement for your perseverance in this cause, believing it to be one in which you will have the sympathy of all whose minds are awakened to feel for suffering humanity.

The care which this Yearly Meeting has heretofore extended to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, has been continued for the past year, and the prospect of usefulness to them has been sufficient to encourage us still to continue our exertions on their account.

The situation of the Boarding School at Providence is such as to encourage a hope of usefulness to the rising generation.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of our friends Isaac Stephenson and William Forster, Jun.r from your Island.

In a feeling of brotherly regard we salute you, and remain Your friends & Brethren

Signed by direction, and on behalf, of the Meeting aforesaid

Abm.m Sheaman, jun.r Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable communication of the Fourth Month last has been received and read in our Meeting; by which testimonial of brotherly love we are encouraged in believing that there still remain those in different parts of the heritage, to whom

We

1824. the advancement of the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth, is precious.

We have had renewed occasion to acknowledge the continued regard of Israel's Shepherd, in that he has in this our annual assembly, graciously manifested himself, by the tendering and solemnizing influence of his Spirit in the minds of many of his devoted servants: under the precious influence of which, the faithful in every age have been preserved in the patience, through the many trials which are permitted to assail us in our pilgrimage through life.

We are united with you in belief, that "the day in which we live is replete with importance and calls loudly for circumspection." And we also firmly believe, from the renewed evidence which we have had, that many, not only in the advanced stages of life, but among the rising generation, are deeply interested in the preservation of our precious testimonies, that the religious care to administer help with firmness, though with tenderness, is not on the decline. We believe that the Lord still owns and will bless the humble endeavours of his supplicant children.

We noticed with peculiar satisfaction, that you were engaged to disseminate such information on the subject of the Slave Trade as may be likely to enlighten the publick mind in regard to it, and interest their feelings in behalf of a much suffering class of the human family. Though we are remote from the scene of Slavery, we believe that we are not exempt from a portion of labour on this account.

We are still giving some attention to the improvement of a tribe of Indians within our limits.

We have been favoured to transact the important concerns of Society which have at this time claimed our deliberation, in brotherly love and harmony; under a grateful sense of which we bid you an affectionate Farewell.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of New-York.

Dear Friends,

We are again permitted to meet, and gratitude demands the acknowledgment, that the favour of Divine government has been extended at this time, and that in the extension thereof, we have conducted the interesting concerns of the Society in harmony and brotherly love, and although deficiencies may exist, and the love of many wax cold, yet for those whose hearts are warmed in desire for the increase of the love of God, there is abundant encouragement.

A consideration of the wretched and undone condition of man as he stands in a state of alienation from his Maker; of the need in which he stands of deliverance, must lead the mind awakened to a sense of its condition, reverently to appreciate the means which the Lord in his abundant goodness and mercy hath provided for his redemption, in that he hath sent his only begotten Son into the world, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life; in that he hath given us to feel by the conviction of his spirit upon our hearts, that he is indeed waiting to be gracious, and ready and willing to deliver all those who call upon him in sincerity and uprightness of soul; and also in that we are favoured with an invaluable testimony of this his great goodness, in the record of the life, sufferings, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, of whom a great Apostle testifies: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that he came into the world to save sinners." — and in that we have been favoured from time to time with the testimony of his servants and ministers, who in the different ages of the Christian Church, have borne a united testimony to his great mercy in this blessed provision for man's deliverance.

And we have believed that a humble and reverential feeling of gratitude to God, for these his great mercies, will ever be found among the fruits of true dedication and devotedness of soul to his work and service. — And that as we experience the work of redemption carried forward within us, we shall ascribe all to the goodness and mercy of God through Jesus Christ our Lord, "who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works."

We acknowledge the receipt of your last acceptable Epistle, and cordially join with you in the hope that our correspondence may tend to cement us together in the unity of the Spirit which is the bond of peace.

In a feeling of brotherly love we salute you, and are your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends, —

The reading of your last acceptable Epistle with those received from our Brethren of other Yearly Meetings has afforded strength and encouragement to our minds, in that it has given us evidence, that the spirit and influence

1824 of our holy Head is yet in such measure graciously afforded to us as a people as to cement us together, and make us in a good degree one, and bound to the support of one cause; and it has renewedly been our desire, that all under our name might so live under this precious influence, that we might experience an increase of this blessed unity, the distinguishing mark and badge of true discipleship. And in this way as we have renewed cause to believe, shall we be enabled, so to let our light shine before men, that they seeing our good works, might glorify our Father who is in heaven. In times of trial may we be especially concerned to live near to the fountain of Divine Goodness, in order that we may draw fresh supplies of that life which cometh from him alone, and by which our faith may be renewed in Him, even that faith which was once delivered to the Saints, and which works by love to the purifying of the soul from all its defilements. As we are concerned thus to abide, we shall experience an enlargement of mind in love towards our fellow-men, and especially towards those who are the objects of oppression, upon whom the hand of affliction rests, and in imitation of our blessed Redeemer we shall be disposed to do them good, to unbind the heavy burthens, and to let the oppressed go free. — That there may be an increase of the benevolence of the blessed spirit of the Gospel, that spirit which breathes peace on earth and good will to men, has been our renewed desire.

We have with you renewed cause of thankfulness to the Author of all our mercies, that we have been again permitted to meet together at this season, and that our meeting, as we humbly trust, has been owned by the great Shepherd, and our minds have been introduced into a living concern, that in this time of trial, we may not be preserved from all vain speculation and unprofitable disputation, that we be not faithless but believing; and that as our pious predecessors were enabled, through much suffering, to maintain the doctrines and testimonies which they were called upon to bear, whereby a precious inheritance has descended to us, so we, in like manner, by true faithfulness in our several allotments, may maintain our ranks in righteousness, and transmit to those who will ere long succeed us, the same precious testimonies unimpaired. With the salutation of love, we are

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the meeting aforesaid

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Under the influence of that love which is not subject to change, we affectionately salute you, and acknowledge

the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of Fifth month last.

In maintaining these our annual interchanges of love and sympathetic regard, it is consolatory to find sensible that it results from our being of that one fold, of which Christ is the everlasting Shepherd — "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one unto another."

Our Meeting has been large, and we have abundant cause gratefully to acknowledge the goodness and tender mercies of Israel's God, in the renewal of Divine help and counsel, under the covering and influence whereof we have been enabled to transact the weighty affairs of the Church in Brotherly love and harmony.

Although it is a day of trouble and deep exercise to the dedicated faithful travellers Zion ward, yet we have been made renewedly sensible at this time that the Lord is still mindful of his people, and that he who hath blessed us and our forefathers with many tokens of his Divine regard, and fatherly care, is yet waiting to shew himself gracious. His promise remains immutable to those who rightly seek him. "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." We may inform you, that the concerns of the Boarding School, under the care and direction of this Meeting, as disclosed by the report of the Committee, have been conducted in a satisfactory manner; and that the Institution affords an encouraging prospect of usefulness to Society. There has at this time been a living concern felt among us, that the dear youth of our Society may be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, that they may be qualified, under the preparing hand of the great Shepherd of Israel, to support with zeal and faithfulness, those precious testimonies committed to our trust, and which have been sealed to us by the sufferings of our worthy predecessors.

It affords us satisfaction to learn, that you still continue to plead the cause of the oppressed African: and although remote from scenes of violence and oppression, we are not unmindful of them, but have felt our hearts, at this time, renewedly touched with sympathy and commiseration for the degraded and oppressed state of that portion of the human family, and would offer you the language of encouragement to persevere in your labours to promote their happiness.

With affectionate regard, we remain your Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

In a measure of that love which flows from the source of all good, do we affectionately salute you. In this love are we led to feel for and sympathize with each other,

among us

1824. though for expedient, you herein may we not be favoured to experience our minds clothed with the spirit of prayer whereby petitions are put up to our heavenly Father that he may enable us so to walk in his holy fear, that we may experience the great work of Christian redemption to be progressing in us; and although there may be many falling on the right hand and on the left, yet the foundation of God remains to be sure; therefore may we be preserved with our eye single unto him who never said to the seed of Jacob, seek ye my face in vain. We feel desirous that it may be our concern often to retire from all visible objects to wait upon him the great head of the church, whereby we may be enabled to meet the many trials and afflictions that await us in this our pilgrimage through time, in that state of mind which is resigned to his blessed will in all things; that they may become so sanctified to us, as to work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Our minds are at this time affectionately drawn into near feeling for the tendered youth; that there may be an increase of those who shall embrace the cross of Christ, despising the shame, and who may be enabled to come forth as faithful standard bearers in the cause of truth and righteousness, whereby the places of those may be filled, who may be removed from works to rewards.

In a feeling of that love which desires the preservation of all of every class, we remain your friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shoemaker, Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

We have again been permitted to meet in this our our annual assembly, and it has pleased the Divine Master to favour us with a good degree of his presence; under the strengthening influence of which we have felt renewedly bound to acknowledge that in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength; and that he is not wanting, in every trial, to support those his devoted servants, who fervently and reverently wait upon him in deep humility and self-abasement.

Though we may sometimes be assailed by potent enemies from within and without, yet we have had renewedly to believe, that as we abide in the watch, feeling the work of his patience in meekness, he will not suffer any weapon formed against his devoted children to prosper; but will in his own time arise and dispel the gathering storms, and cause the sun of righteousness to shine with a animating lustre on the minds of his humble followers: And we greatly desire that friends every where may so abide under the humbling influence of his divine teachings, that we may be preserved, either from putting forth a hand unbidden, or from

withholding that which it may be our duty to contribute for the advancement of his cause and the quietude and peace of our own minds.

We have, as at other times, been introduced into much exercise on account of deficiencies which have been upheld to us in the answers to the Queries, which has led to faithful labour on the part of some deeply concerned minds, that Friends in their various allotments may duly wait for the proper qualification rightly to discharge the friendly office of administering those who may, in one way or another, be overtaken with a fault.

Notwithstanding we have been thus faithfully exercised on these accounts, yet we have cause of encouragement in believing that the testimonies which our early predecessors were engaged, through much suffering, to bear to the world, will not be permitted to fall; but that the minds of many in the earlier walks of life, are yielding obedience to the gentle operations of that power, which will in due time qualify them for usefulness in the Church.

Your acceptable Epistle of ninth month last has been received; we have also received Epistles from the several Meetings with which we have correspondence; the reading of which has renewed the current of love towards our dear absent brethren, and we have been led to view these tokens of regard, as means of usefulness in our religious Society.

We notice with satisfaction, that your attention is still continued to the improvement and civilization of the Indian natives. We have, with some prospect of usefulness, given some attention to the condition of a tribe within our limits.

Our boarding School still continues to afford encouraging hope of usefulness to the rising generation.

We much desire, that in all our movements we may all duly consider, that humility is a requisite qualification for usefulness, and that the crown is not conferred but as the reward of faithful obedience. With desires for our mutual preservation in the Truth, we remain Your friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Being again permitted to meet together in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and feeling our minds as we humbly trust, in measure clothed with the love of the Gospel of Christ, therein we are enabled to salute you, and to acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the 10th month last, by which we perceive that ours of last year did not reach you; in that we advert to the efforts that are making to introduce the evils and miseries of Slavery into some parts of our Country where they have hitherto been unfelt. As a concern and exercise has rested with us at this time, in which concern we have no doubt you participate, that no rightful means should be left untried, where there is a prospect

of

1824 of Society, to avert this great evil. The distressing condition to which our brethren of the African race are subjected, in those parts of our country in which slavery is permitted, it would seem must if properly considered, so affect the minds of all who are alive to the feelings of humanity, as to lead them to deprecate the introduction of this state of things into any portion of our land where they do not now exist. Indeed that any greater portion of our country should be filled with the sighs and groans of our fellow-creatures, the objects of a wicked and cruel tyranny; that their voices should be lifted up against our fellow country men as their oppressors, and finds none to help, are considerations calculated to arouse the most latent feelings of compassion within us. May we all be willing to be introduced into exercise and feeling on this subject, and whatever we may find to do, in their behalf, do it with our might. For, dear Friends, if we silently suffer the oppressor to seat himself, beside us, if we bear not our testimony with faithfulness against his oppression, how can we be said to be followers of him, the object of whose coming is to unbind the heavy burthens, and let the oppressed go free.

In attending to the state of our Members, as exhibited by the answers to the Queries, our minds have been exercised on account of deficiencies therein mentioned; yet we have cause of encouragement in believing that the Most High hath not forgotten his heritage, but is operating by his power on the minds of many, and even among the youth, who are humbling themselves under the refining hand, and who if they keep their place will no doubt become useful in their day. May those of this description, both with us and you, be animated to continue in the line of duty; so that there may be a succession of faithful burthen bearers in the Church.

We feel encouraged to believe that many amongst us are desirous, above every other consideration, that the Church may be sustained in the purity of the faith and doctrines which shone with brightness in the morning of our day as a religious Society. And, dear friends, this can only be the case, but as we are individually engaged to seek for true qualification to distinguish between truth and error; and were this attained unto individually, the spirit of true judgment would be ours, and when any thing out of Gospel order made its appearance, we should experience ourselves zealous and impressing its guise, that he giveth a spirit of judgment to those who sit in judgment, to the restraining and even to the condemning of the unauthorised offerings.

We were pleased with the information, that the subject of Indian civilization continues to claim your attention, we are also we hope usefully engaged in a similar concern, having a few remaining of this class of our fellow men among us.

With the salutation of love, we remain your friends.

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clk

State of Rhode Island
and
Providence Plantations

In General Assembly
October Session, A. D. 1823.

An Act, to authorize and enable the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, to receive, hold, manage, appropriate, and dispose of Property, for Charitable and Benevolent and other purposes.

Sect. 1st Be it enacted by the General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that Moses Brown, David Buffum, William Rotch, jun.r Rowland Greene, Rowland Parkhurst, Royal Southwick, David Buffum, jun.r Benjamin Hall, John Osborn, James Rowe, Abraham Wilkinson, William Buffum, jun.r William King, Edmund Collins, Samuel B. Russell, Enoch Reed, Daniel Clapp, Benjamin Trevorn, Abraham Shearman jun.r Edward Cobb, Stephen Jones, David Rowland, Jonathan Dennis, Stephen Gould, Nicholas Congdon, Daniel Taber, Effingham L. Capron, William Slade, Moses Seeber, Abijah Chase, Thomas Arey, Thomas Rowland, Cornelius Howland, John Brown, John Wilbur, Silas Earl, William Jenkins, Moses Farnum, Stephen A. Chase, Micajah Collins, Willet Allen, Arnold Congdon, Daniel Bassett, jun.r Cor. Eph.m Metcalf, and Ichabod Arnold, together with the other Honorary members of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England who with their predecessors for more than a century past have usually held their general annual Meeting, in Newport, in this State, be and they are hereby invested with the powers usually given to corporate bodies, for the holding, receiving, managing, and disposing, and appropriating real and personal estate, for charitable and benevolent and other uses, by the name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England; and that they and their successors, being admitted and approved as Members of said Yearly Meeting, according to their usual order and discipline, shall by the name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, aforesaid, have perpetual succession, and be able and capable in law, to receive hold and enjoy, by purchase, devise, gift or otherwise, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods and chattels, estates and property of every kind, provided the net income thereof shall not in any one year exceed the sum of thirty thousand dollars, of which they shall stand seized and possessed, notwithstanding any misnomer or imperfect description in the gift, grant, or other transfer and conveyance thereof; provided the intent be evident, the said Yearly Meeting shall have the same to use, manage, improve or otherwise dispose of, at their will and pleasure; to make and establish all such rules and regulations relative to the management of said property as they may deem expedient; provided the same are not repugnant to the laws of the United States and this State; and generally to do and perform all acts, matters and things, relative to the purpose aforesaid, that a corporate body could by law have power to do and perform; provided nevertheless, that in every case in which any donation of any kind has been made to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England in trust, or for any particular object or purpose, the intent of the donor shall be forever regarded, and the donation shall be forever used, employed and appropriated to the full and faithful execution of the trust, and the object and purposes of the donations according to the true intent and meaning of the donor thereof.

Section 2d.

Section 2d. And be it further enacted, That whenever said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England at their annual or other meetings, held at such times and places as they may judge convenient, shall appoint a Clerk or Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees, Committees and other officers and agents, for any length of time they may deem expedient to act for them or in their behalf, the Clerk or Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees, Committees and all other officers and agents, which they shall or may appoint in their usual way and manner of appointing them, shall be considered and deemed to be their officers and agents enumerated and designated in this act.

Section 3d. And whereas certain devises, bequests and donations of real and personal estate and annuities have heretofore been made and given by different persons, more especially by the late Obadiah Brown deceased, in and by his last will and testament and codicil thereto, and also by Sylvester Wickes, Thomas Folson and Lydia Tillinghast in their last wills and testaments, to and for the use and benefit of poor of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid in their Boarding School, or to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or to the Committee for Sufferings of said Yearly Meeting, or to the Treasurers of the Yearly Meeting's School Committee, or to the Treasurer of the School Fund, in trust for the use and benefit of said Yearly Meeting's Boarding School being a School under the government and patronage of said Yearly Meeting of Friends, reference being had to the respective wills and codicil of the late Obadiah Brown, Sylvester Wickes, Thomas Folson and Lydia Tillinghast, for a more particular description of the devises, bequests, donations and annuities: Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and singular the devises, bequests, donations and annuities aforesaid, principal, income and interest, are hereby declared to be charities and devises, bequests, donations and annuities to charitable uses; and that as such they be holden, used, managed, improved and appropriated to the objects and purposes expressed by the respective benefactors and donors thereof, according to their true intent and meaning.

Section 4th. And be it further enacted, That all the estate and property of every kind, now holden and belonging to said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, either for their own use or in trust, is hereby secured and confirmed unto them the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, and to their successors, in the capacity in which they stand by virtue of this act; and they are hereby authorised and empowered to hold, enjoy, and manage, and otherwise dispose of, all the estate and property belonging to said Yearly Meeting of Friends in their own right, or according to the provisions of the trust.

Section 5th And be it further enacted, That the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England be, and they are hereby authorised and empowered, by virtue of this Act, to demand, take, hold, use and manage, all estates and property, and all bequests and devises, donations and annuities, principal, income and interest, given to and for the use of said Yearly Meeting's Boarding School, or to said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or to the Treasurer appointed by the Yearly Meeting for Sufferings of said Yearly Meeting, or to the Yearly Meeting's School Committee, or to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting's

School Fund, or which are made and given subject to the direction, management, and control of the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or to their School Committee, or the Committee for sufferings of said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting of Friends School, or to any other person or persons in whatever capacity in trust, for the use and benefit of their School, or for the use and benefit of any literary, moral or religious institutions of said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or under their care and patronage; and especially the devises, bequests, donations and annuities, principal, income, and interest, given as before herein stated, by Obadiah Brown, Thomas Tolman, Lydia H. Kinghast and Sylvester Wickes; all and singular of which said estates and property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities, principal, income and interest are hereby secured and confirmed to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England in the capacity in which they stand by this act; to be by them taken, holden, managed, improved and appropriated to the faithful execution of the trusts and to the objects and purposes for which the same were given, according to the true intent and meaning of the benefactors and donors thereof. And the same aforesaid Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, are hereby authorised and empowered to bargain, contract, and compromise for and settle and all and singular the estates and property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities in this Section mentioned, with the person or persons having the possession, control and management thereof; and it shall be lawful for, and moreover the duty of all and every person or persons now having, or who may hereafter have the control, possession or management of any such estates and property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities, whether they have the possession, control and management thereof as trustees, executors, or administrators or in whatever capacity they have the same, by good and sufficient deeds to transfer, assign and deliver to the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, in their capacity as aforesaid, all and singular said Estates and property, bequests, devises, donations, and annuities, principal, income and interest, or the amount and value of the same, as may be agreed, contracted, or compromised for, by them the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, and in particular the agreement or compromise already made between the Executors of the said Obadiah Brown and the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England; whereby the said Yearly Meeting have agreed to receive fifty thousand Dollars, as a principal or fund, in lieu of the annuity of three thousand dollars, which by the last will and testament of the said Obadiah Brown is to be paid annually, after one year from the time of his decease, for the use and benefit of the said Yearly Meeting's Founding School; and also the agreement or compromise by which the said Yearly Meeting is to receive one other sum of fifty thousand Dollars as a principal or fund at the decease of Hannah Brown, widow of the said Obadiah Brown, in lieu of an annuity of three thousand Dollars, which at her decease accrues and by the aforesaid last will and testament of the said Obadiah Brown is to be held for the use and benefit of the said Yearly Meeting's Founding School, are hereby confirmed by this Act; and the person or persons

to Cambridge, assigning and delivering to said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England hereby authorised to receive the same shall thereupon and thenceforward forever be exonerated and discharged from their trust in this, and from all manner of liability and accountability for said estates and property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities, principal, income and interest to all intents and purposes whatever; and the rest and residue and remainder of the estates and property of the said Obadiah Brown, Eunice Weeden, Thomas Wilson, and Lydia Tillinghast, and of all and every benefactor and donor which now is or may hereafter be held by executors, administrators, legatees, trustees, or heirs, shall also be exonerated and discharged from all liability or accountability therefor; and the said Yearly Meeting thus qualified, shall thereupon become seized and possessed of said trust estates or property, devises, bequests, donations and annuities aforesaid, principal, income and interest, in trust; and they are hereby declared trustees thereof, to hold, manage, improve, and appropriate the same to the faithful execution of the trusts, and the objects and purposes for which the same was devised, and given, according to the true intent and meaning of the benefactors and donors thereof; and shall be accountable for the same, and for the faithful use, management and appropriation thereof in law and equity.

Section 6th And be it further enacted, That the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England hereby authorised, may vest in a Clerk or Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees, Committees, or other officers or agents, which it may appoint from time to time, power and authority to manage and improve the estates and funds in the possession of the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, for the use of literary, moral, and religious institutions, according to the directions given to them by the said Yearly Meeting, and subject always to such rules and regulations as said Yearly Meeting in their usual mode of transacting their business may establish.

Section 7th And whereas there are funds, property and estates, belonging to the Monthly and other subordinate Meetings of Friends, which compose a part of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, which said Yearly Meeting do not claim property in; It is therefore hereby further enacted and declared, That it is not the intent or meaning of this Act that the government, power or authority of said Yearly Meeting shall in any manner affect any such property, any further or more than was vested in said Yearly Meeting according to their order and discipline heretofore established by said Yearly Meeting.

Section 8th And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act shall impair or alter, or in any measure affect any of the usages, customs, orders, modes and rules of discipline used and practised by the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, or in their Committees (or Meetings) for Sufferings, or other subordinate branches of the said Yearly Meeting of Friends, touching their religious concerns, all which usages, customs, modes, orders, rules and disciplines are reserved to them in the same way and

manner and with the same effect, as though this Act had been in full passed.

I Now follow the Certificate of Henry Bowen, Secretary of the State of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations, and of William C. Gibbs, Governor of said State, authenticating said Act.]

Copy, compared with said Act, pr attested.

Abraham Shearman, jun^{r} Clerk.

1825

1825.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends held on Rhode Island for New England, beginning with Publick Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth, on First day, the 12th of Sixth Month, 1825, and on Second-day morning the 13th at Newport, for Discipline.

Accounts being received from all our Quarterly Meetings the Friends therein named as Representatives, are — For Rhode Island, Stephen Gould, Wm. Almy, John Wilbur, Benjamin Buffington, Rowland Greene — for Salem, John Page, Isaac Bassett, Jun^{r}. Thomas Davis, Abijah Chase, Stephen Oliver, Jon^{a}. Nichols — for Dartmouth, Joel Mann, George Mitchell, James Arthur, James Barker, Stephen Rogers, Abr^{m} Shearman, Jun^{r}. — for Falmouth, William Purinton, Robert Pope, Reuben Pinkett, Nathan Pope, — Smithfield, Jonathan Fry, Obed Harkness, Moses Darwin, Asa Tilley — Vassalborough, Moses Sleeper, Joseph Howland, Daniel Purinton, Jeremiah Hacker, David Robinson — Dover, Benjamin Fry, Joshua Meader, Samuel Buffum, Joshua Hoag .... who are all present.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our friends George Hatton, of Whitewater Monthly Meeting, State of Indiana, and James Stewart, of Cornwall Mo. Meeting, State of New York, who produced Certificates of the unity of their respective Meetings, with their friendly religious engagements.

The London general Epistle of last year with acceptable correspondence Epistles from our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New-York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read at this sitting. —

Thomas Rowland, John Wilbur, Benjamin Percival, Wm. Almy, Job Otis, Edw^{d}. Cobb, Stephen J. Chase, Stephen Oliver, Rowland Greene, William Buffum, Jun^{r}. Benjamin Fry, Moses Sleeper, William Jenkins, Arnold Congdon, Obadiah Davis, Daniel Johnson, Thomas Anthony, George Mitchell, and Abr^{m} Shearman Jr. are named to take said Epistles into consideration — and as way may open for it, prepare Essays to those Meetings, and lay them before this, at a future sitting.

The subject of the situation of the People of Colour under the care of the Yearly Meeting of North-Carolina having been introduced to this Meeting, by the Epistle from that Yearly Meeting, has claimed our sympathetic consideration, and Friends here, being desirous of further information on this subject, it is referred to our Meeting for Sufferings to correspond with the Meeting for Sufferings there, or with the Committee of said Yearly Meeting, having charge of said People, if way should open

1825. open for it, in order to obtain such information; and to lay the result of their correspondence before our next Yearly Meeting. And in the mean time, should they receive such information through this or any other channel, as to induce them to believe, that assistance can be usefully extended previous to another year, they are left at liberty to act in the case, as, after due deliberation, they may deem advisable.

Benjamin Freeborn, Isaac Bassett, Jun.r Job Otis, William Purinton, Rowland Rathbun, Joseph Howland, & Joshua Meader are appointed a Committee to settle the Treasurer's accounts, consider of a sum proper to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and propose a Treasurer — to report at a future sitting.

We are informed by R. Island Quarterly Meeting that it has united with R. Island & Mo. Meeting in approving the publick ministry of Abigail Shearman; and with Greenwich, in the appointment of Peter Peck, jun.r to the place of an Elder — by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, that it has united with Westport Monthly Meeting in approving the publick Ministry of Anna Mucomber; with Sandwich Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Mathias Gifford, and with New Bedford, in the appointment of Abraham Shearman, to the place of Elders; also with Dartmouth Mo. Meeting in disapproving the publick ministry of Philip Dunham — by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, that it has united with Durham Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Mary Pope to the place of an Elder — by Smithfield, that it has united with Smithfield Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Rowland Rathbun to the place of an Elder — by Vassalboro', that it has united with China Mo. Meeting in approving the publick ministry of Anna Rogers, and in the appointment of Stephen Jones and Sarah Winslow, as Elders; and with Vassalborough Mo. Meeting, in the appointment of Mary Foster to the same station — by Dover, that it has united with Sandwich Mo. Meeting, in approving the publick ministry of John Meader; and with Berwick, in the appointment of Sibil Jenkins to the place of an Elder.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon — Met by adjournment.

The Representatives having proposed Abm. Shearman, as Clerk and Stephen A. Chase, as Assistant Clerk, their appointment is united with by the Meeting.

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our friends Abigail Burtis, of Burlington, New Jersey — Huldah Hoag, of Farmington Mo. Meeting, Vermont; and Abigail H. Hoag, of the same Mo. Meeting — Minutes of their respective Meetings, expressive of unity with their Ministry and present religious

religious engagements, were read at this Sitting. ——
—— We have also the acceptable company of our friends Mary Allinson, Companion to Abigail Barker, and John Knowles and Mehetabel Austin, Companions to Elizabeth Haug.

The state of Society being opened in this Meeting, by the answers to the Queries, many minds were introduced into deep exercise on account of the deficiencies thereby brought under consideration; and particularly in regard to the great neglect of our religious meetings; the want of love and unity; the dissemination and perusal of pernicious publications; an indulgence in unbecoming conversation, and giving way in many of its specious appearances, to the spirit of the world —— Much salutary and pertinent counsel was imparted on these and other subjects connected with the welfare of our various testimonies; Friends were encouraged to seek for right qualification and ability, faithfully to labour in meekness and wisdom, in their respective allotments at home, and in our lesser Meetings, for the removal of hurtful things; and to wait in humble confidence, and with a single eye, to the Great Head of the Church for a blessing on their endeavours.

The following Summary is intended to embrace the substance of the answers to the Queries: viz.

(We our Meetings for Worship and Discipline, with the exception of several small Meetings, omitted in consequence of the inclemency of the weather or want of health, have been duly held; yet many are deficient in the attendance thereof and more particularly of those held in the middle of the week and for discipline; mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour, some instances of sleeping excepted —— Love and unity appear to be generally maintained, though much wanting in some instances; detraction is mostly guarded against, yet not sufficiently so by all. Care is taken to end differences, but in some instances without the desired effect —— There is a concern with many Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness; and to restrain them from the perusal of pernicious books and corrupting conversation, and are exemplary therein, while others are deficient in the maintenance of these testimonies, and in some a good example is wanting —— The Holy Scriptures are read in the families of Friends —— The use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, is generally avoided; but the answers received, manifest a falling short in divers instances, which has been painful to many minds; the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort appears to be mostly guarded against; moderation on the occasions referred to, is generally maintained. The circumstances of the poor are attended to —— It appears that proceedings with respect to marriage are mostly conducted conformable to discipline: Instances of marrying out are under notice —— Our testimonies against War and the payment of Priests' wages are generally maintained; a few instances of deviation are under notice —— With but few exceptions, a commendable care appears to subsist among Friends in regard to the settlement

1823 settlement of accounts and the balancing of promises, as well as a care to live within the limits of their circumstances — Our records are mostly attended to.— Removals without Certificate are under notice.— Friends are generally careful to deal with offenders as queried; yet in some instances it has been too much delayed.— A concern to place judgment, when necessary, according to discipline, is generally prevalent.

Adjourned to the 3d hour tomorrow afternoon.

11th day.— Met by adjournment.

The Committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's Acc[t] and for other purposes, made the following report, viz[t]

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting

"We your Committee have settled with the Treasurer, and find a balance in his hands of two hundred & ninety-four dollars, 12 Cents; and propose the sum of five hundred dollars to be raised for the ensuing year.

"We also propose William Almy as Treasurer.

Benj[n] Freeborn,
on behalf of the Committee."

which is acceptable to the Meeting.— It is concluded to raise five hundred dollars the sum proposed for the service of the ensuing year.— William Almy is appointed Treasurer, and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him their respective proportions of the above Sum, as heretofore agreed. [viz[t] R. Island $150.— Salem 50. Sandwich, $193.33— Falmouth, 16.67— Smithfield 50— Vassalborough, $15— Dover, 25.]

It appearing by the answers to the second Query from Falmouth and Dover Quarterly Meetings, that there is much want of love and unity between some Friends of those Meetings; and that in some instances the care that has been extended to end differences has not been attended with the desired effect; this Meeting, after solidly deliberating on these painful circumstances, appoints Benjamin Freeborn, Rowland Greene, William Almy, Thomas Rowland, Moses Sleeper, Rowland Cathburn, and Daniel Howe, to visit those Quarterly Meetings, or any of the Meetings subordinate thereto, or Individuals, as they may find the way to open; and render such advice and assistance, and labour for the restoration of harmony, and the termination of differences, as ability may be afforded them; and report to this Meeting next year.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee being read and considered, is approved, and such parts of the report as it appears necessary to lay before our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, with the minutes annexed to the Report are

the duplicate to be transcribed by the Clerk, and forwarded to them, for their future government in sending Children to the School. — —

"The Yearly Meeting Boarding School Committee report, that they have given attention, during the past year, to the concerns of the Institution, and feel a degree of satisfaction in being enabled to state, that the prospect of its usefulness to the children and youth of the Society, continues to be encouraging. The School is continued under the charge of Enoch and Lydia Reed, as Superintendants, and Isaac Jones, David Daniels, Samuel B. Tobey, Abigail Peirce, Mary Beedee, and Sarah Carlo, as Instructors. The average number of Scholars for the year past, has been one hundred & three. The receipts for board and tuition, with the Income of the Fund, continue to meet the expenditures.

"It is concluded again to admit one Child from each Monthly Meeting, six months, or two Children, three months each, free of expense, provided their term be accomplished within the year succeeding the Yearly Meeting.

"The number of Children at the School had so increased at the commencement of the present year, that the Committee thought it necessary for their convenient and healthful accommodation, and that of the family, that the building should be enlarged by an addition of about forty feet square to each wing; and as it appeared desirable that the work should be commences previous to the time of the Yearly Meeting, they, with the advice of the Meeting for Sufferings, have contracted to have such additions made, and they are now in progress.

"The accounts of Moses Brown, Treasurer of the School Fund, have been exhibited to this Committee and settled; by which it appears that the Donation of Fifty thousand Dollars made to this Institution by our late friend Obadiah Brown has been received by him, and is invested in part in Bank Stock, and the residue loaned to Individuals, sufficiently secured by Mortgage or otherwise. That the donation of One thousand dollars to the Charitable Fund, by our late friend Lydia Gilling hast has also been received, and the amount invested in Bank Stock, and the income of this Donation, and the rent of the Farm in Connecticut given by our late friend Sylvester Wickes have been appropriated by the Committee agreeably to the respective Wills of the Donors. It also appears that there is a disposable Fund of about Nine thousand four hundred Dollars, in Securities, including the principal and interest due thereon. — The balance of money in his hands, 4 mo. 21st. ($279 20/100) has been paid for the use of this Institution.

"It is concluded by the Committee, that Children of this Yearly Meeting, who are Members of Society, continue to be received for the present, at sixteen dollars per quarter; and that those who are Children or Grandchildren of Members

of

1825 of our Society, or under the care of Friends of this Yearly Meeting, when the circumstances of the School permit of their being received, be admitted at Twenty dollars per quarter; and that should it be thought best hereafter to admit any others, that they be received at twenty-five dollars per quarter.

"The Committee propose, should it meet the approbation of the Yearly Meeting, that the annexed Minutes be forwarded, to the several Monthly Meetings for their government in sending Children to the School.

"Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Wm. Jenkins,

Providence, 5mo. 6, 1825. Alice Rathbun."

(Minutes referred to in the above Report.)

The School Committee, in the discharge of the important trust confided to them by the Yearly Meeting, have found it necessary from time to time to revert to the great object, which the Yearly Meeting itself, as well as the Friends who have contributed to the funds of the Institution, have had in view in the establishment of the School, and which they think cannot be better expressed than in the language which accompanied the bequest of one of its early friends and most liberal benefactors; that our children and youth "may receive a religious guarded education, "free from the contaminating influence of the vain fashionable "world, which leads young minds from the simplicity of the truth, "and that meek and quiet spirit exhibited by our blessed Lord "and Saviour Jesus Christ, whom we profess to follow."

It was in accordance with such views, that the Committee were induced, in the 2d month, 1814, soon after the School was in operation, to forward the following minute to the several Monthly Meetings, and which in 1821, was again sent down under the sanction of the Yearly Meeting, viz.

"It has appeared necessary, from experience derived since the "opening of the Institution, that more general circumspection should "be extended in sending Children to the School, conformable to the re- "commendation in the printed Circular of the 12th month last. —

"And to procure the order necessary to carry the object of the Yearly "Meeting into more complete effect, it is recommended that each Monthly "Meeting appoint a few suitable Friends to whom application may be "made by Parents or Guardians of Children who are desirous of placing "them at the School; that the Friends so appointed consider it their "duty not only to require that the Children come in a plain dress, and "in the use of the plain Scripture language, but that they are of good "habits; and that they give a few lines to that import, for the inform- "ation of the Superintendants and Instructors at the School."

"The Committee now feel it to be their duty to recommend to the Monthly Meetings a greater extension of care to these objects, and that the appointment of such Committees be received by them, to act in connection with the Members of this Committee, if any, who may reside within the limits of each Monthly Meeting.

"And as Children have in several instances, been brought to the School without any recommendation or minute from the

Committees of the Monthly Meetings, and through an unwillingness to subject their parents or others to inconvenience, many have been admitted, notwithstanding:— It is now concluded, after deliberately considering the subject, and with the preservation of right order and the good of the Institution solely in view, that after a reasonable time for the circulation of this conclusion, the Superintendants be instructed not to receive any Children without such Certificate.

"In all cases of a doubtful nature that may come before the Committees of the Monthly Meetings are requested to make application by letter addressed to the Superintendant, or to the acting Committee of the Institution, which meets at the School House in Providence on the 4th day after the last fifth day in each month.

"As a further means of promoting simplicity of manners and appearance among the Children, and to prevent the injurious effects of contrary example, the Superintendants are authorised to direct, that such apparel as the Children bring with them, that is deemed inconsistent with the principles that truth leads into, be laid aside during their residence at the Schools, or the necessary alterations made, and the expense charged."

The same Friends who constituted the School Committee of last year, are continued, to unite with such Friends as may be appointed by the Women's Meeting, to compose a Committee for the Government and Superintendance of the School for the year ensuing: and to act therein on behalf of this Meeting, in conformity with the direction and authority heretofore given said Committee.

The Committee appointed by this Meeting, as by minute of last year, to receive from the Executors of the last Will and Testament of our late Friend Obadiah Brown, the Legacy due to this Meeting — and for other purposes — made the following Report, viz.t

"Agreeably to appointment we have received of Moses Brown and Wm. Almy, Executors of the last Will and Testament of Obadiah Brown, deceased, the sum of Fifty thousand dollars principal, and two thousand four hundred & seventy five dollars Interest, being the sum agreed on in lieu and in full satisfaction for the Legacy, or Annuity of three thousand dollars; and paid the same over to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School Fund; and herewith present his receipt, and likewise a copy of our discharge to the said Executors.

Providence, 8mo. 13th. 1824.

David Buffum,
Walter Allen,
Jonathan Congdon,
Benjamin Freeborn,
Rowland Greene,
Thomas Howland."

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which was read and accepted, and the papers accompanying it directed to be entered on our Records — and the originals deposited with the other papers of the Yearly Meeting.

[For copies of the Papers referred to, see close of these Minutes.]

1825. The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, and the attention given to the concerns that have come before that Meeting being satisfactory to this, the same Friends are continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, agreeably to the constitution of that Meeting.

It appearing by the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, that the Executors of the last Will and Testament of Isaac Hale Obadiah Brown, deceased, propose to give Security to the Yearly Meeting, for the payment of the Legacy of Fifty thousand Dollars, which will accrue to this Meeting for the benefit of its Boarding School on the decease of Lorcas Brown, his Widow, in order that they may obtain from the Court of Probate, a discharge from the duties of their Executorship, and to prevent as much as may be, the casualties, to which said Legacy in its present state is liable, — the proposal is acceded to by this Meeting; — and being now informed that said Executors are ready to unite with the Residuary Legatee, in giving to this Meeting their joint Security for the payment of said Legacy, when it shall become due, agreeably to the Will of the Testator, we appoint David Buffum, Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene, Jonathan Congdon, Walter Allen, and Benjamin Hudson, a Committee in trust, to receive in behalf of this Meeting, the security proposed, executed in such manner as shall be satisfactory to them, and thereupon to give said Executors and Residuary Legatee, such writing as will discharge them, their Heirs & in their said capacity, as well as the Estate of the deceased, from all further demands of this Meeting, and execute the same on our behalf, — and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 10 th hour tomorrow morning.

15 th day. — Met by adjournment.

The Meeting for Sufferings, to which was referred, the subject of selecting and arranging for the proposed new edition of our Book of Discipline, any additional resolutions of this Meeting, now on record, proposes the introduction of the following articles, viz:

On the subject of inspecting Testimonies and Memorials, adopted in 1811.

On receiving Pensions for military services rendered by individuals before they were Members, 1815.

Respecting persons under deafness, minute arrived, in 1822.

which additions are approved, and directed to be made; and the Meeting for Sufferings is authorized and requested to have a new edition of the Book of Discipline printed, and to take the necessary care in superintending the press.

It appears from the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, that the title to the Meeting house lot in Boston is now fully vested in Friends, and the following Minute of

of that Meeting being read viz: "One of the Overseers of Salem "Monthly Meeting informs that the Meeting House in Boston "has been rendered unfit for the use of that Meeting; the repairs "of which being one hundred and sixty dollars, have been applied "to defray the expenses attending the recovery of the title to the "premises; and this Meeting on reflecting upon the subject, have "thought proper to revive for the consideration of the Yearly "Meeting, the subject of selling the Lot also on which the "House stood, and the purchasing of another Lot for the "accommodation of Friends" ..... The subject is referred back to the Meeting for Sufferings, with authority to sell said Meeting House Lot in Boston, whenever they may deem it advisable, and to purchase another Lot in that City, for the accommodation of Friends, to be applied to the uses to which the former Lot was appropriated by the original Grantors and Donors.

William Jenkins is appointed to assist the Treasurer of the School Fund in performing the duties of that Office.

In the event of the payment into the Treasury, of the principal of any of the sums now due to the School Funds, the Treasurer is directed to advise with the School Committee in regard to the reinvestment of such sums, or with such Committee as may be appointed by them to aid him in making such Investments.

Jonathan Congdon & Wm. Jenkins, Providence, R.I.
Stephen Gould & David Sisson Jun. Newport, R.I.
& Abm. Shearman, Jun. New Bedford, Massachusetts,
are appointed the Correspondents of this Meeting with the other Yearly Meetings on this Continent; and the Clerks is directed to give this information in a Postscript to the Epistles now about to be forwarded to those Yearly Meetings.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met by adjournment.

The Committee on Indian concerns appointed as by Minute of last year, made the following Report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends now sitting.

"Your Committee on Indian concerns have given such attention to the object of their appointment as may has opened for, have conversed with a number of the Natives in the course of the year past, and about the middle of last Winter visited Old Town, their principal Settlement; had interviews with the Government Agents at Bangor, on the subject of their improvement in Agriculture, and find that they are progressing in the business of Farming; that they raised last year about double the quantity which they had done in any preceding year; that they have made some beginning in building houses, and

1825. that several of them have commenced raising Cattle for their own convenience.

Finding that the family which had made the greatest improvement in farming had also undertaken to accommodate themselves with a more permanent dwelling, we presented them with windows and nails to a small amount, for their encouragement. Some others have made a little progress in building.

The scattered situation of the Tribe, from Old Town to Passadamca, a distance of twenty two miles, wholly on Islands, with their settlement at Mapawamkeag, twenty-eight miles further, renders it extremely difficult to give them all the aid in farming that would be considered for their interest; and a proposition has been made for the government of Maine to purchase their Islands at an ample equivalent, the interest of which to be remitted to them annually, forever; and to locate them on their two Townships of upland at Mapawamkeag, where their Governor and a number of others now reside. This proposition, if they accede to it, will bring them more into a compact neighbourhood, which of course will render their situation much more convenient for those who may be engaged in the promotion of their civilization, and their Agricultural interests.

Newport, 14th of 6mo. 1825. 3

On behalf of the Committee,
Moses Sleeper.

Amo. furnished the Indians 13.30
do. for Expenses. — 11.—
$24.30

which being considered is acceptable to the Meeting; and Friends being encouraged to believe, that usefulness will result from a continuance of the Committee, the same Friends are requested to give such further attention to the objects contemplated in their appointment, as way may open for, and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The Treasurer is requested to pay to Moses Sleeper $24.30. the sum expended by the Committee.

The state of Society as shewn in this Meeting by the answers to the Queries, having been deeply exercising to many minds, and a concern to endeavour to assist and encourage our subordinate Meetings, by imparting such counsel as they may respectively stand in need of, being revived at this sitting, by a communication from the Women's Meeting, that they had appointed a Committee to visit the several Quarterly and other Meetings belonging, as way may open in the Truth, and administer such help as they may be enabled in best wisdom to afford; the subject has claimed the solid and feeling consideration of Friends, — and we appoint Rowland Greene, John R. Davis, Obadiah Davis, John Wilbur, Thomas Rowland, Rowland Rathbun, Jonathan Dennis, Edm. Cobb, Cornelius Howland, and Thomas Jones, to unite in that service,

as they may find the way to open, and inform to our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to ½ past 7. tomorrow morning.

16th day. Met by adjournment.

Essays of Epistles to our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North-Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, were read in this and the previous sitting, and being considered, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such verbal alterations as may appear necessary, and forwarded to those Meetings, signed on our behalf.

The Clerk is directed to furnish our Friends from abroad, with Minutes agreeably to Essays proposed.

The Clerk is also directed to make all necessary extracts from our Minutes, and sign them on our behalf.

Having through the several sittings of this Meeting been enabled to act upon the concerns that have come before us, in much harmony and brotherly condescension; under a grateful sense of this renewed extension of Divine favour, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island, in the Sixth Month next, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Asst. Clk.

Copies of Papers accompanying the Report of the Committee appointed in 1824. to receive from the Executors of Obadiah Brown, the Legacy due to this Meeting, referred to at foot of page 87.

Know all Men by these Presents, that we David Buffum, Thomas Rowland, Rowland Greene, Jonathan Longdon, Walter Allen and Benjamin Freeborn, a Committee in trust, appointed by the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, agreeably to the within Certificate, to receive of Moses Brown and William Almy, Executors to the last Will and Testament of Obadiah Brown, deceased, the sum of Fifty thousand dollars, and Interest due thereon, amounting in the whole to Fifty-two thousand four hundred and seventy five Dollars, have this day received of the said Moses Brown and William Almy, as Executors as aforesaid, the said sum of Fifty-two thousand four hundred and seventy-five Dollars in full of the Principal, Income and Interest of said Legacy of Fifty thousand dollars, given by the said Obadiah Brown, and by his last Will and Testament, to the said Moses Brown, as Treasurer of the School Fund, or to said Yearly Meeting of Friends, and also in full of the Annuity of Three thousand dollars, given by the said Obadiah Brown as aforesaid to the Treasurer of said School Fund. We the said Committee in behalf of the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New

1825. England, and pursuant to our authority given by said Act, do hereby release, exonerate and discharge the said Moses Brown and William Almy, and the Residuary Legatee of said Obadiah Brown, and the residue of his Estate, from the aforesaid Legacy of Fifty thousand dollars, and the Interest, and from the Annuity of Three thousand Dollars, and Income thereof, given by the said Obadiah as aforesaid, to said Treasurer of said School Fund, or to said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, and from all debts, duns, actions, causes of actions and demands of every kind and nature, which the said Treasurer of said School Fund, or said Yearly Meeting ever had, or now have, or may or can have against the said Moses Brown and William Almy, the residuary Legatee of the said Obadiah, or the residue of his Estate, for or on account of said Legacy or Bequest of Fifty thousand dollars, and the Interest and Income thereof, and from said Annuity of Three thousand Dollars given as aforesaid by the said Obadiah to said Treasurer of s.d School Fund, or to said Yearly Meeting, the said sum of Fifty thousand Dollars, and the Interest thereon as aforesaid, being paid in lieu of said Annuity of Three thousand dollars, pursuant to a former arrangement of the parties, and ratified by an act of the General Assembly entitled "An Act to authorise and enable the Yearly Meeting "of Friends for New England to receive, hold, manage, appropri-"ate and dispose of Property for Charitable, and Benevolent "and other purposes" passed at their Session held in 10 Mo. (October) 1823.

In Witness whereof, We have hereunto set our hands and Seals, this 13th day of 8th mo. 1824.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in presence of—
William Jenkins
Reuben I. Peckham

David Buffum, (L.S.)
Thomas Rowland, (L.S.)
Rowland Greene, (L.S.)
Jonathan Congdon, (L.S.)
Walter Allen (L.S.)
Benjamin Freeborn, (L.S.)

I. Here follows the Certificate of the appointment of the Committee as entered on our Records last Year,—Signed by the Clerk.—

Recorded, October 1st A.D. 1824.
Witness, Nathan W. Jackson, Town Clerk.

June 10, 1825.

I certify that the aforegoing is a true copy from Book No. 48. page 190, &c of the Records of the Town of Providence, for recording Deeds, &c.

Nathan W. Jackson,
Town Clerk.

Copy, Compared,
A.S.W. Clk

Providence. 8th Month 13th. 1824.

Received of David Buffum, Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene, Jonathan Congdon, Walter Allen and Benjamin Freeborn, being a Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held in 6th Month last, for the special purpose of settling with the Executors of the last Will and Testament of our deceased friend Obadiah Brown, and to receive of them in trust for said Yearly Meeting the sum of Fifty thousand Dollars principal, and two thousand four hundred and seventy-five Dollars Interest now due thereon, making in the whole Fifty-two thousand four hundred & seventy five dollars; which Sum as Treasurer of the said Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-Englands School Fund, and agreeably to their appointment, I hold the same, subject to such advisement & control as said Yearly Meeting from time to time may direct or order; the same being their property —— and I do hereby acknowledge that the said sum of Fifty two Thousand four hundred and seventy five Dollars has been paid over to me for the purposes above specified.

Moses Brown, Treasurer ——
of Yearly Meeting School Fund.

The foregoing Instrument is duly recorded in Book No. 48 Page 164. of the Records of the Town of Providence for recording Deeds, &c. this thirty first day of August, A. D. 1824.

Witness. Nathan M. Jackson,
Town Clerk.

Copy. compared,
A. S. Jr. Clk.

Epistles. — Forwarded, 1825.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London

Dear Friends.

Your acceptable Epistle of last year, we have duly received, and it has furnished additional evidence that the interchange of our salutations, in this way, tends to strengthen that precious bond of union, which remains to be the badge and distinguishing mark of the disciples of Christ — by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

In times of peculiar trial, it is doubly grateful to be favoured with an evidence of the sympathy and concern of our friends on our behalf — and many are the trials of the present day, to the faithful among us. Among the most alluring and dangerous of the temptations which abound at this time, we are induced to consider the means so unwearedly used to draw off the minds of the unguarded, from the simplicity of the Truth as it is

1825. as it is in Jesus, and to introduce in lieu thereof, the imaginations and reasonings of man; by which means many have made shipwreck of their faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works. And the prevailing desire of our minds has been, that we may be preserved steadfast and immoveable on that Rock, upon which the true Church of Christ ever has been built, the revelation of the Father, by which Peter was enabled to acknowledge of our blessed Lord, Thou art Christ the Son of the living God.—— And we believe with you, that a frequent perusal of the truths of the Holy Scriptures, and a humble faith in them, and acknowledgement of their Divine origin is one appointed means of preservation.

The expression of your tender regard for the youth among us is heartily grateful. May they be preserved in a state of humble waiting and dependence upon Him, who is graciously disposed to preserve them in his fear, and as they are obedient to his heavenly will to give them the reward of peace.

We have been made humbly thankful for the renewed evidence of Divine regard, with which we have been favoured at this time; and are comforted with the belief, that notwithstanding the discouragements that assail, there are not preserved among us many who are hastening the welfare of Jerusalem to their chiefest joy, who are depending upon the Lord alone, and disposed in the ability which he giveth, to labour in his service and for the support of his cause. That these may be encouraged, and their number increase, has been our fervent desire: and we are persuaded, that as these abide faithful to the Lord, their labours will be blessed to the Church, even to the building up the waste places, and repairing the breaches upon the walls of our Zion.

The attention of this Meeting was drawn towards the means of ameliorating the condition of the Indian natives of the Penobscot tribe, in the year 1821, by a request of the government of Maine, that our care should be extended to them. And after the appointment of a Committee of examination and inquiry as to the prospect of our usefulness to them, we thought best to make some efforts to improve their condition; and accordingly have since that time had a Committee, to do what they could, to introduce among them the comforts of civilized life. Although we have not been able to exert that influence over them, which we desired, yet we are not without the hope, that some good effects may result from our labours. The high es-

teem

...n, in which the examples and memory of William Penn ; so justly held by most of the native inhabitants of the middle and western States, has given Friends a facility in their labours of love among them, which we do not enjoy.

By the report of our Founding School Committee it appears, that the concerns of that Institution have progressed in such a manner as to give encouraging hope of continued usefulness to the Society. — The average number of Scholars from the past year, has been upwards of one hundred.

With the salutation of our love, we remain

Your Friends.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia:

Dear Friends,

Being again met together in this our annual Assembly, and feeling our desires raised (we trust under the influence of Divine love,) for the promotion of the cause of Truth and righteousness in the earth, our distant Brethren in the same precious faith, are brought feelingly to our remembrance.

Your acceptable Epistle of the fourth month last has been received and read in this Meeting.

Although the answers to our Queries continue to exhibit deviations from that Discipline, which we believe to have been established amongst us, in the ordering of unerring wisdom, for the promotion of our present and eternal welfare; yet the concern thereby excited in the minds of many of our dear Friends, and the tender solicitude manifested to repair the walls of our Zion, have given us encouraging evidence that that the Lord is yet mindful of his people: and we are led to hope, that the honest endeavours of all such, as under the influence of Christian love, seek to reclaim those who depart from the simplicity of the Truth, will be sanctified to the promotion of the blessed cause.

The condition of the oppressed African people, who are still subjected in many parts of our country, to a cruel bondage, has renewedly claimed our sympathetic consideration. And while we fear, that situated as we are, remote from the scenes of their greatest afflictions, we may not have been at all times sufficiently alive to their sufferings, we feel engaged to encourage our brethren of other Yearly Meetings, in this cause of suffering humanity, and to say to them, be not weary in well doing, for to such as persevere to the end, is the promise of ample reward.

By the report of our Founding School Committee, it appears that the concerns of that Institution are in an encouraging state; and the prospect of its usefulness to our beloved youth is not diminished.

While

1825.

While our hearts are warmed with gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, for the many manifestations of his Regard vouchsafed to us; and that he has enabled us to transact the weighty affairs which have come before us, in much harmony — and we trust under a measure of the influence of that Sanctifying Spirit which should direct all our Labours in the Church, we bid you affectionately Farewell, and are Your Friends,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of New-York.

Dear Friends,

We have abundant cause of gratitude to the Author of all our mercies, in that he is graciously pleased to permit us once more to assemble together to transact the important concerns of the Church; and among the various privileges which we enjoy in a religious capacity, that of communicating with our brethren in distant parts, through the medium of Epistolary correspondence, we consider not the least important; inasmuch as it has a tendency to bind us together in the bond of Christian fellowship; and the more especially in this day, when so many causes seem to combine to lay waste and destroy those excellent testimonies which our worthy predecessors were called upon to support.

In alluding to these causes we are led to notice the numerous publications teeming from the press, tending to weaken our belief in the validity of the Sacred writings, and to set at naught the principles of the Christian religion. May we all endeavour by prayer and watchfulness to stand on establishment on the sure foundation, Jesus Christ, the Rock of Ages.

In turning our attention to the State of our Society, many of our minds have been brought into a deep exercise on the account of the non-attendance of our religious meetings, particularly those in the middle of the week, and for Discipline: the cause of which, we believe may in a great measure be found in an unwarrantable attachment to worldly pursuits. Let not the spirit of the world obstruct our progress, nor divert our attention from the all-important concern of a never ending State. Among our various propensities to evil, perhaps there is none which has a more direct tendency to sap the foundation of mutual confidence than detraction. — May we endeavour to guard against the first appearance of this great evil; carefully avoiding all uncharitable reflections, which may tend to lessen the dignity, or injure the character of others.

We

We acknowledge the receipt of your friendly Epistle of last month; by which we are comforted in the belief, that many Friends in your part of the vineyard, are still concerned to maintain the law and the testimony, in its primitive purity, and to bring up their tender offspring in the way that they should go; may they find encouragement herein, trusting in the Lord to crown their efforts. Much depends on parents in inculcating correct principles in the minds of youth; and much may be lost by the omission of this great duty. To the young and rising generation must our anticipations be directed; upon whom will ere long devolve the high trust committed to our charge. How important then that we faithfully discharge our several duties, that when we shall have done with the things of time, we may look forward with a well grounded hope of a blessed immortality, that fadeth not away.

With the salutation of love we remain your friends,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid.

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Having again assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity, the important concerns of Society, and the advancement of the great cause of Truth and righteousness have engaged our minds; and we trust a degree of humble thankfulness has been experienced, under the belief, that many are yet preserved on the ancient foundation, amidst all the weaknesses, the backslidings, and various deviations in faith and practice of the present day. We have mourned, yet at times have been enabled to rejoice in hope — we have feared, but have been comforted by the remembrance, that the "promises of the Lord are yea and amen forever," and that amongst other and consoling promises it has been declared from the highest authority; "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and a stranger they will not follow" and again, "I am the way and the truth, and the life; and no man cometh unto the Father but by me." Such was the language of our blessed Lord, when personally on earth, and if, indeed we are his sheep and follow him, we must necessarily believe that no man cometh to the Father but by him, and our minds will be imbued with reverence, adoration, and praise to the God and Father of all, for the precious gift of his beloved Son, with the promise, that whosoever believeth on him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. — Possessing this faith, our confidence in the outward means of instruction which it has pleased Divine goodness to preserve to us through the medium of the Holy Scriptures will be

1825. strengthened, and the Divine character of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will be exalted in our view.

We have at this time craved for ourselves and for others, that we may, through obedience to the Truth, be enabled to stand fervent in this faith; and if, this is our happy experience, there will be no halting as between two opinions, and the cry of Peace, whilst the enemy is sowing the seeds of discord amongst the brethren, will not be heard among us; but we shall, with that innocent freedom which the Truth inspires, openly disapprove, and humbly endeavour to correct in our individual, as well as in our collective capacities, all unrighteousness, whether it be in doctrine or in practice; having in view the preservation of our principles and testimonies; believing it to be an indispensable Christian duty thus to admonish one another.

Our minds have been comforted by the reading of valuable Epistolary communications from our dear brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, as well as from those in our own Country; and we rejoice in believing that they have been and will continue to be instrumental, as they are conducted under right influence, in building each other up in the Lord, and in preserving an uniformity of faith and practice among brethren professing to be "governed by the same rule, and to mind the same thing."

Your acceptable Epistle of the 10th month last was received and read.

With the salutation of that love which wisheth well, we are Your Friends,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of s.d. Meeting,

Abraham Sheaman, Jun.r Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

In a measure of our heavenly Father's love we affectionately salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your Epistle of the fifth month last, which was read in this our annual assembly to our edification and comfort. We feel desirous at this time that it may be our unabated concern to become increasingly conformable to the Divine will; that there may be no secret reserve in our minds; but that our obedience may keep pace with knowledge; that although we may be tried in many and various ways, and at times deep and painful may be our conflicts; yet may we labour with the Apostle to be content in every State; whereby we may know the Lord to be our hiding place; a covert from the storms that await us here; knowing every thought and imagination to be brought into captivity

to the obedience of Christ, here is experienced an increase of indwelling with Him, and we are gradually brought forth into the liberty of the Children of God: whereby Christ's yoke is known to be easy and his burden light; being enabled to submit to tribulations, knowing that tribulation worketh patience; patience, experience; and experience, hope; and this hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in the heart.

We feel our minds engaged on behalf of the beloved youth, that they may be led and guided in the fear of the Lord, which is the beginning of that wisdom which is from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. This wisdom is (said a wise king) the principal thing, and by taking up our daily cross and following our blessed Lord, is the way whereby it is attained; and the reward of those will be an hundred fold in this world for all the sacrifices that they may make, and in that which is to come, life everlasting. Then, dear Youth, seeing the crown is so invaluable, may you be induced to lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset, and run with patience the race that is set before us, and not be weary in well-doing, for ye shall reap if ye faint not.

The report of the Boarding School Committee affords encouragement to this Meeting to continue its fostering care to that Institution.

With the salutation of love we remain,

Your Friends,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of North-Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Being again assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity, we have cause thankfully to acknowledge, that the Great Head of the Church has not been wanting to the sincere hearted amongst us, but as faith and patience have been abode in, under an humbling sense of our own insufficiency, he has been pleased to arise for our help and edification, and to the comfort and strength of many minds, and we are renewedly made sensible that he is the Shepherd of the Sheep, and that his sheep know his voice, and a stranger they will not follow, and as we are duly concerned to distinguish, and to be guided by the intimations of his love, we are gathered into the fold of rest and peace, and under his direction are favoured to go in and out and find pasture.

Under these consoling and encouraging considerations we have had you, our distant Brethren, in affectionate remembrance, believing that as we are concerned to keep the word of his patience he will keep us from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

The various and interesting concerns of Society brought before this Yearly Meeting, have been conducted in much unanimity and brotherly love, evincing how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity; it is indeed like the dew of Hermon, and like the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore. and although in the exhibition of the State of Society, various deficiencies are manifest in the support of our religious testimonies, yet we have cause to believe there are many amongst us deeply concerned for the welfare of Zion, and the enlargement of her borders, and that many amongst the dear youth are evidently under the preparing hand of him who hath "all power in heaven and in earth."

Your interesting Epistle of the 11th month last, has been read in this Meeting, and the information it contained relative to the circumstances of the people of colour who are under your immediate care and protection, claimed the particular attention and sympathy of the Meeting; and feeling desirous of obtaining further information on the subject, we have directed our Meeting for Sufferings to correspond with your Committee or Meeting for Sufferings, and extend such further care in the case, as to them it may seem to require, and lay the result before our next Yearly Meeting.

With the renewed salutation of our love, we remain

Your friends,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Having been favoured, again to meet in this our annual assembly, we have experienced, in the transaction of the weighty affairs which have come before us, renewed evidence of the continued extension of the heavenly Father's regard, under the influence whereof, brotherly love and concord have been prevalent, which at times brings, in a lively manner, to our remembrance, that ancient, yet beautiful expression of the Psalmist, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is, for brethren to dwell together in unity," and we can well believe, that where this true love is cultivated, the blessing is commanded, "even life forever more." And while we can say with you, that painful are the feelings excited by the defections marked in the accounts from our subordinate Meetings, we do not find cause to despair in our endeavours, to repair the breaches in the walls of our Zion; and amidst all the discouragements we have reason to believe there are those still remaining who can at times adopt the language of Nehemiah, when he said, "the good hand of my God is upon me." That we feel renewed, solicitous that there may be no relaxation of concern to profit by that exhortation — "Nevertheless, whereto we have

already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing."

We may inform you, that our care is still extended to the Penobscot tribe of Indians, with a degree of success.

Our Boarding School continues to furnish an encouraging prospect.

Your acceptable epistle of last year has been received, with divers others, and read to satisfaction.

With the salutation of love we are your friends,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting

Abraham Sherman, Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana.

Dear Friends,

The continuation of Divine regard has been, renewedly experienced in this our Annual Assembly, whereby we have been enabled to commemorate the goodness of our heavenly Father in enabling us again quietly to meet together in the discharge of those solemn duties which we owe to him and to one another. And notwithstanding weaknesses and deficiences are yet painfully beheld within our borders, yet we are encouraged in finding that those deviations have not been passed over unnoticed in our subordinate Meetings, nor without labour for an amendment; that there are yet exercised minds in the various sections of this Meeting, who are labouring in their allotments for the preservation and support of our precious testimonies, and are endeavouring to keep their ranks in righteousness, in that faith which was once delivered to the saints.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 10th Month last, came to hand, and was read in this Meeting, and with other epistolary communications which we have received, has revived in our minds the condoling evidence that the Truth has yet its advocates, and that these in the different parts of our country, as well as in Europe, are looking to the same object, and minding the same thing. And we may remember, dear Friends, that all those who are following on, more perfectly to know the Lord in the humility of their souls, wherever their lot may be, are all Brethren, and one is their Master, even Christ. That the hands of these, wherever situated, may be strengthened, and the blessing of Heaven attend on their labours, is the prayer of the faithful.

It is with satisfaction that we observe, by your Epistle, a disposition to continue your labours for the benefit of the Indian Natives; and however your endeavours may not in every instance prove so immediately successful as might be desired, yet we would encourage you in so benevolent a concern as that of their civilization, and the improvement of their condition in every respect which may be found practicable. There are several Indian tribes within the limits of this Meeting: to one of these, the Penobscot tribe, we are extending some care.

It is

1825. It is also with much satisfaction that we notice your endeavours, to aid and relieve the African descendants, to protect their rights, and ameliorate their condition; for their sufferings and wrongs, we also feel near sympathy; and however the sufferings of slavery may be not felt by them on this part of the Continent, and our interference is not so obviously and frequently called for, yet we continue to feel a deep interest in regard to their personal liberties, in those parts where they are continually enslaved.

We have been favoured to transact the concerns which have come before us in our several sittings with much unanimity and harmony, for which we feel thankful, and under a sense of the favour, we conclude with the salutation of brotherly love, and remain Your Friends,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesd.

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk

1826.

1826. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, beginning at Portsmouth, Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First day, the 11th of Sixth Month, 1826; and on Second Day morning, the 12th, at Newport, for Discipline.

Accounts being received from all our Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives, are; For Rhode Island, Thomas Rowland, Stephen Gould, Daniel Brayton, William Hazard — for Salem, William Hoy, Charles Grove, Isaac Tuttle, Jun. Thomas Davis, Jona. Richard, David Low — for Sandwich, Job Otis, Seth Riley, Stephen Rogers, Benj. Tucker, Vince Gardner — for Falmouth, Edward Cobb, Robert Shebe — for Smithfield, Josiah Snow, Rowland Rathbun, James A. Hoy, Silas Aldrich for Nadenborough, Stephen Nichols, Hazard Bowerman for Dover, Joshua Jones Union, Moses Cooper, Joseph Allen — for Dover, Joshua Reader, Richard Jones, Samuel Hoyt, Jun. Timothy Hanson — who are all present but two.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our esteemed Friends Elisha Bates, of Short Creek Monthly Meeting, State of Ohio, and of Jonas Hawley, of Woodbury Monthly Meeting, State of New Jersey, who produced Certificates of unity and concurrence with their present religious engagements.

We have also the acceptable company of our esteemed Friends, Isaac Braithwaite, of Kendal Monthly Meeting, Great Britain, — Henry Grubb of Smithfield M.o Meeting, Ohio, Companion to our friend Elisha Bates; and Samuel Emlen, of Atlantic Monthly Meeting, State of New York, who produce satisfactory Minutes from their respective Monthly Meetings.

The London Yearly Epistle of last year was read in this Meeting to our satisfaction. — Acceptable correresponding Epistles from our Brethren of the Yearly Meetings Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina

[illegible] Davis, John Wilbur, Edward Cobb, Jos. Foulston, Thomas Rowland, Thomas Hey, Rowland Greene, Micajah Collins, Effingham L. Capron, Smith Jan[illegible], Eph[illegible] C[illegible], [illegible] Tobias, [illegible] and John R. Davis, [illegible] are appointed to take said Epistles under consideration, and as way may open for it, [illegible] communications to this Meeting, and report upon the same at a future sitting.

Our beloved friends Elizabeth Robson and Anna Braithwaite of Great Britain, being now acceptably with us, certificates of unity with their Ministry, and present religious engagements in this Country, were read — For the former, from the Monthly Meeting of Carlisle held at Liverpool in the third month 1824. the Quarterly Meeting of Lancashire held at Manchester in the same month, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers, Elders held in London, in the 5th Month of the same year. and for the latter from the Monthly Meeting of Kendal, held in the 3d Month; Westmoreland Quarterly Meeting held at Kendal in the 4th, and the Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, in the 5th Month, 1825.

We have also the acceptable company of our esteemed friends Deborah Rowland, who produced a Certificate of unity and concurrence from Obedience Monthly Meeting, New York.

A minute from Fallowfield Monthly Meeting, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on behalf of our esteemed friends Ruth Kay, expressive of unity with her engagement to accompany our friend Elizabeth Robson — and a Minute from Purchase Monthly Meeting, New York, on behalf of our friend Hannah Feely, expressive of unity with her prospect of accompanying her friend Deborah Rowland in her present religious visit, were also read — these Friends being now acceptably with us.

All our Quarterly Meetings informed, that they have directed their proportions of Stock, paid to our Treasurer.

Jonathan Coggeshall, Daniel Robinson, Job Eddy, Abel Pope, Benj. Aldrich, Moses Dow, and Eli Varney, are appointed to settle the Treasurer's accounts, if opportunity should offer for it, [illegible] being now detained from the Meeting by sickness. — Consideration of a sum [illegible] to be raised for the ensuing year, and [illegible] Treasurer [illegible] to report at a future sitting.

We are informed by Rhode Island Quarterly [illegible] that it has united with the respective Monthly Meetings to which they belong, in the appointment to the place of Elders of Hannah Rounds, of South Kingstown; Waite Lawton, of Rhode Island, and Anna Anthony, of Greenwich — by Salem, that it has united with Weare Mo. Meeting, in the appointment of John Sawyer, Hannah Page, and Eunice Sawyer, to the place of Elders — by Sandwich, that it has united with Westport Mo. Meeting, in approving the publick Ministry of Elizabeth Tripp; and with Sandwich Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Prince Gifford, Junr. to the place of an Elder — by

1826. by Smithfield, that it has united with Bolton Mo. Meet... in the appointment of ... Vassalborough, that it has united with China Mo. Meeting, in removing the ... Mo. ... of Hannah Bartlett and Elizabeth Lincoln, — and with Sidney Mo. Meeting, in the appointment of Adam Wing, Esther Weeks, and Lydia Swinton, to the place of Elders.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon — Met by adjournment.

The Representatives having produced Abraham Shearman, Junr. as Clerk, and Stephen A. Chase, as Assistant Clerk, their appointment is united with by the Meeting.

The Queries were read, with answers from the several Quarterly Meetings — of which the following is a summary.

In our Meetings for worship and discipline, (with the exception of one small Meeting, omitted in consequence of sickness,) have been duly held, and appear to have been attended by most Friends, while they have been much watched by many, and particularly in the middle of the week. — They have been mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour, a few instances of ... excepted. — Love and unity are in a good degree maintained, although to be much wanting in some instances.

Detraction is mostly guarded against, but not sufficiently so by all. — Care is maintained to end differences, but in some instances without effect. — Many Friends are concerned to bring up those under their direction in plainness, to restrain from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation, and are exemplary herein themselves, while others neglect the maintenance of these testimonies, and a good watch is wanting in some. — The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in the families of most Friends, but a few is apprehended that all are not sufficiently engaged in their households. — The use of spirituous liquors, as ... for medicine, is universally avoided, but not without exceptions, which appear to be, mostly under notice. — The unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of publick resort is mostly guarded against, and moderation on the occasions referred to in the queries, generally maintained. — The circumstances of the poor are attended to. — A few children, we are informed, are known among Friends. — Marriages, that proceedings are there among Friends, mostly according to discipline, but with some exceptions, which are under notice. — With the exception of a few instances of a military nature, and a few cases of ... in payment of hired wages, which are under notice in the meetings where they have occurred. The principles of truth in these respects appear to be generally maintained. — Friends are mostly careful to instruct their children to be punctual in their pecuniary engagements, and to live within the bounds of their circumstances; yet exceptions have arisen, some of which are under notice. — Marriages are duly

and

and births and deaths recorded: — A few have removed without Certificate. — A general care prevails to deal with offenders in a good degree as recommended; not in some instances the case appears not to [illegible] — A concern to place judgment where necessary, according to Discipline, is generally manifest.

The deficiencies existing within our borders; as brought to view by the answers to the Queries, and briefly exhibited in the Summary of their contents, produced a deep exercise of the minds of many present, and led to the expression of a feeling concern for their removal: that instead of that indifference, that lack of zeal, and want of faithful labor, which forwarded the ruin of so many within our borders, there might be witnessed a fervent engagement and devotedness of heart, under the influence of which it would be esteemed a privilege as well as a duty to attend our religious meetings; which would strengthen the bonds of union in the love of the Gospel; but an end to differences; and due to a faithful maintenance of all the testimonies, which as a people we believe ourselves called upon to bear — and a feeling desire was particularly manifested that Friends might not relax in their endeavours to maintain a faithful testimony against the improper use of ardent spirits; but sedulously guard against the first approaches to an indulgence, which when once it has become habitual has been so destructive to the happiness of individuals and families; and which must be convincing peculiarly unpleasant in the members of a Society which professes in this respect to hold up a standard to others.

Adjourned to the third hour tomorrow afternoon.

13th day — Met by adjournment.

Being informed by Dover Quarterly Meeting, that Moses Whittier had given notice to that Meeting of his intention to appeal from its decision, and he now appearing here to prosecute his appeal, we appoint Benjamin Trueblood, Jonathan Langdon, Esther Newhall, Daniel Johnson, Seth Pelton, Comfort Foulke, Robert Pyle, Edward Cobb, Thomas Hoag, Edward Mellvick, Hannah Tucker, and Hannah Law to hear said Appeal, & report to this Committee of the Quarterly Meeting, and what their judgment is in the case at a future sitting.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee being read and considered is accepted, & the Clerk is directed to forward copies of the Report to our Quarterly Meetings, that it may be transmitted through them to the several Monthly Meetings.

"The Yearly Meeting Boarding School Committee, report, That they have given their attention to the concerns of the Institution through the past year, and feel a satisfaction in being able to state their belief that its usefulness to Society continues to increase. The School is under the charge of Enoch & Lydia Brock, as Superintendants; and Josiah Jones - David Davis and Geo. Jones, assistant Teachers, Abigail Reece, Hannah Earle, and Mary Hoag, as Teachers. — Meetings for Worship have been regularly continued, and the family has on

[illegible]

prosecuted, in harmony. The average number of Scholars for the ye
year has been one hundred and ten. The receipts for boats and wa
& Board with the [illegible] have been equal
to the expenditure.

It is again concluded to admit one child
from each Quarterly Meeting, six months, or two children three
months each, free of expense, provided their term be accomplished
within the year succeeding the Yearly Meeting. The terms of
the admission of Children the same as the last year.

The account of the Treasurer of the School Fund has been ex=
amined and audited. The additions to the wings of the School
House, as contemplated in our report of last year, have been
completed, the expenses of which, together with the necessary im=
provements in the old parts of the House, amount in the
whole to eight thousand eight hundred and thirty five Dollars,
fifty nine cents; of this sum, seven thousand four hundred
and eighty-four Dollars, eighteen cents, has been collected of
the Distributable fund, and paid; leaving a balance of Thirteen
hundred and fifty one dollars, forty-one cents, now due; to
liquidate which, there remain of the distributable fund, uncol=
lected, two thousand and fifty-two Dollars, seventy five
cents. The average number of Scholars, for the last five
months having been one hundred and thirty six, a much
larger number than at any former period, experience has
proved that the additions were necessary for the suitable
accommodation and comfort of the Scholars & family.

Signed on behalf of the Committee.

Moses Brown,
5th of 5th Mo. 1826. Mary B. Allen."

Our Friends who constitutes the Committee of last year, with the
addition of John Carmen, Arnold Aldrich, Nathan Bu[illegible]ston
and Jona. Congdon are appointed to unite with such Friends as
may be named by the Women's Meeting, to constitute a Committee
for the superintendance and Government of the School for the year
ensuing, and to act therein on behalf of this Meeting, in con=
formity with the authority heretofore given said Committee.

The Committee appointed, as by minute of last year,
to receive security from the Executors and Residuary Legatees of
our late friend, Obadiah Brown, made the following report, viz

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed to receive Security from the
Executors and Residuary Legatee, named in the last Will and
Testament of our friend Obadiah Brown, deceased, for a Legacy
of Fifty thousand Dollars, given in said Will to Friends'
Boarding School, and to give them a discharge on behalf of the
Yearly Meeting, Report, that the object of their appointment has
been fully attended to, and that the Committee have still said Security
ready to be placed wherever the Yearly Meeting may direct.

On behalf of the Committee,

Rhode Island, 2nd. 2. 1826. Jno. Howland.

which Report is accepted by the Meeting, and the discharges given by
said Committee to said Executors and Residuary Legatees are
hereby confirmed.

The Friends of the Meeting for Sufferings were nu-
and the attention thereby manifested to the subjects that were
from them, or have otherwise claimed their attention, is satis-
factory to this Meeting

The Friends now under appointment are continued, to con-
stitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, agreeable
to the constitution of that Meeting.

The situation of the People of Colour under the care of the
Yearly Meeting of North Carolina, having claimed at our last Gener-
Meeting, the following consideration of Friends, as will appear by the min-
ute then made, and our Meeting for Sufferings, to whom it was referred
to obtain further information on this interesting subject, having laid
before this Meeting the result of their correspondence with the Meeting
for Sufferings of North Carolina, by which it appears that those ob-
jects of their care, hold their present claim to that State of freedom
they have hitherto enjoyed, by a very precarious tenure, and are in
imminent danger of again being reduced to absolute Slavery, if
they remain where they are; the subject as thus revived has been deeply
affecting to us, and called for the expression of much sympathy
with our Brethren of that Yearly Meeting, as well as with the suf-
fering people who are looking to them for protection — under these
feelings we appoint Charles Hartshorn, Matthew Barnard, William
Jenkins, Williams Congdon, Daniel Chase, Shubael Nichols, Alex-
ander C. Pratt, Daniel Gove, Francis Baker, George W. Taber, John Mac-
Lane, Jr., Edm. Cobb, William Hill, James V. Fry, Stoughton D.
Cushman, John Gow, Stephen Nichols, Eli Gurney, and Richard
Dunn, — to receive from Friends such sums as they may be
freedom to contribute, towards their relief; to be appropriated in
such way as Friends of North Carolina may judge will most
fully conduce to this object in confidence, that under the difficul-
ties that present themselves on this occasion, our Friends will be
enabled to decide as best wisdom may direct.

The Committee now appointed, to report at a future sitting

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

11th day — Met by adjournment.

Testimonies of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning
our late friends Elizabeth Hull and Samuel Thurston; of Swan-
ey Mo. Meeting concerning Jonathan Chase; and of New-Bedford
Mo. Meeting, concerning James Davis, were read in this Meeting,
and being approved, are directed to be placed on Record.

The Committee appointed, as by minute of last year
to visit Falmouth and Dover Quarterly Meetings, made the
following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting —

"A part of your Committee on the subject of the difficulties
in Dover and Falmouth Quarters, so far attended to their appoint-
ment as to have made a visit to Falmouth in the 8th, 11th
and 3d months last past; attended some of their Select, and
also Monthly and Quarterly Meetings; had interviews with individ-
uals as way opened; but owing to a want of health, but few of your
Committee have been able to attend to that service; that nothing
decisive has been accomplished; and the obstacles to a Christian
fellowship still remain."

Moses Sleeper,
Thos. Howland
on behalf of the Com

1826 ing being conducive in connection with the answers to the Queries respecting love and unity, and the ending of differences, received at the present time, from those Meetings, the Friends who are now under appointment are continued to extend such further care in the case, and to render such assistance and advice as they may be enabled to afford, agreeably to the former minute — and we ardently desire, that the Friends who are the more immediate objects of this concern of the Yearly Meeting, may be impressed with the necessity of standing open to receive, and of yielding to the advice of their Friends.
The Committee to report to this Sitting, next year.
Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Met by adjournment. —

Being informed, through the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, that by the decease of our late friend Dorcas Brown, on the 15th of last month, the legacy left to her by her deceased husband, Obadiah Brown, to continue during her life, has now fallen to the Yearly Meeting, for the use of its Boarding School; and that it is desirable to the Executors, that this Meeting should make provision to receive said Legacy, and discharge the Executor and Residuary Legatee from the security which they have given for the payment thereof, when it should become due, — We appoint David Buffum, Thomas Rowland, Rowland Greene, Jonathan Congdon, Walter Allen, and Benjamin Freeborn, (who now hold the security given by said Executors and Residuary Legatee,) a Committee in trust, to receive from them the amount of said Legacy, as so secured, in Bank or other Stocks, or in money, as in their judgment they may deem most for the interests of the Institution; and upon the payment thereof, to give up the security which they now hold, and they, or any four of them to execute such further discharge, if any, as may be deemed necessary, and sign the same on behalf of this Meeting; — and when the amount of said Legacy is received, to pay the same over to the Treasurer of the School Fund, taking his receipt therefor — and report to this Meeting next year. —

We are also informed, that the Books, (numbering over four hundred volumes,) Maps, &c. given in and by the last Will and Testament of our late friend Obadiah Brown, for the use of Friends' Boarding School, have been received, and are placed in that Institution; and the Committee above named are authorised to give a receipt therefor on behalf of this Meeting.

Being informed, that Benjamin Folsom, Executor of the last Will and Testament of his Brother Thomas Folsom, deceased, is desirous of settling his accounts with the Court of Probate in the County of Rockingham, State of New-Hampshire; and to relinquish his further attention to the residuary legacy given to Friends' Boarding School at Providence; and it appearing that the Court deems it requisite that some person

should be authorized by the Yearly Meeting to give a discharge to the Executor; and as the Treasurer of the School Fund, who was heretofore authorized to receive said Legacy, is unable, from his advanced age, to attend said Court; — We hereby substitute and authorize Eli. Thos. A. Chase to act therein on behalf of this Yearly Meeting, and to give all necessary discharges and acquittances to said Executor, — first receiving such other or further sum or obligations, if any, which of right belong to this Meeting by virtue of said Will, — and when so received, to place the same in the hands of the Treasurer of the School Fund — and report to our next Yearly Meeting, advising in the mean time, with the School Committee, should any thing occur to render their advice necessary.

The School Committee is authorized and requested to appoint a Committee with whom the Treasurer of the School Fund may advise, in regard to the Investment of any monies which may hereafter be paid into the Treasury.

The Committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Treasurer, and for other purposes, made the following Report: —

"Agreeably to appointment we have examined the Treasurer's Accounts, and find in his hands a balance of one hundred ninety four dollars ninety seven Cents — propose the raising of six hundred dollars for ensuing year, and the appointment of Wm. Almy, for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committe,

6m° 11th. Jon.a Congdon."

which is accepted — and in conformity therewith, it is concluded to raise six hundred Dollars for the service of the ensuing year — William Almy is appointed Treasurer, and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward him their respective proportions of the above Sum, viz.: Rhode Island, $180. — Salem, $60. — Sandwich $232. — Falmouth, $20 Smithfield, $60. — Vassalborough, $18. — Dover, $30. —

The Committee on Indian concerns made the following Report:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

The Committee on the Penobscot tribe of Indians, to ascertain what improvement they had made in Farming the last year, and to encourage them in these pursuits, in the second month last, made them a visit; passed through Old Town, thence up the River, visited several Families on their Central Islands; returned back through Old Town, and made a visit to a Winter encampment of ten or twelve families on Ossan, their largest Island; and by what we were able to discover among them, with information derived from other sources, we have reason to think favorably of the care Friends have thus far extended towards them, as there appears to have been a gradual increase in their farming pursuits; they raised more wheat last year, than in any preceding year;

have

1826. have made some addition to their usual stock, and also to their buildings since our last report: hence a greater number of them stay at their homes during the winter season than heretofore.

Moses Sleeper,
On behalf of the Committee.

Dun'd 13, 1826.

[illegible] Expences. $28.07.]

which report being considered, is acceptable to the Meeting. — And as we are encouraged to believe that usefulness has resulted from the care which Friends have hitherto extended towards this people, the Committee now under appointment are requested to continue their further care, as way may open, in promoting among them, the comforts of civilized life; — and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The Treasurer is requested to pay to Moses Sleeper, $28.7/100, the sum expended by the Committee.

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends, appointed as by minute of last year, to visit the several Quarterly and other Meetings, and to endeavour to assist and encourage them by imparting such counsel as they might respectively stand in need of, and the Committee be enabled in best wisdom to afford, now made the following report: — "To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The joint Committee of Men & Women, on the subject of visiting the Quarterly and other Meetings hereto belonging, have attended to their appointment, as way has opened. They have had several conferences together on the subject; and a number of them have united at different times in visiting some of the Meetings; and we are encouraged to believe, that these visits and labours have been well accepted by Friends; and we hope usefulness has been derived therefrom; still it is the sense of the Committee, that the further sympathy and care of the Yearly Meeting, particularly to some of the Subordinate Meetings, might be beneficially extended.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,
Thomas Rowland.
Abigail Robinson."

Newport, 14th of 6mo. 1826.

— —

and the attention given by the Committee to the objects of their appointment being satisfactory to us, and believing that usefulness will arise from the continued care and sympathy of this Meeting, the Friends under appointment are requested to extend such further advice and assistance as way may open for in the Truth, and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

15th day. — Met by adjournment.

The Committee appointed on the case of appeal from Dover Quarterly Meeting, made the following Report:

"Your Committee appointed on the subject of an appeal by Moses Whittier from the judgment of Dover Quarterly Meeting in their confirmation of Dover Monthly Meeting, have had an interview with the parties, and have given them a full hearing on the subject; and we are of opinion, from the views we have taken of the case, that the judgment of Dover Quarterly Meeting be confirmed.

6mo 14, 1826. /Signed/ Benjamin Freeborn,
Jona Congdon,
Estes Newhall,
Daniel Johnson,
Seth Kelley,
Cornelius Howland,
Robert Pope
Edwd Cobb,
Thomas Fry,
Arnold Aldrich
Moses Sleeper
Moses Dow.

which is accepted, and the decision of Dover Quarterly Meeting confirmed; and as the Appellant is not now present, the Clerk is desired to forward him a copy of this Minute, and also furnish a copy to Dover Quarterly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to receive subscriptions for money to be forwarded to Friends of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, to be applied in assisting the People of Colour under their care, report that there has been subscribed, the sum of $904. —

On behalf of the Committee,
Charles Hadwen.

6mo 14, 1826.

We appoint William Jenkins and Jonathan Congdon, to receive the amount subscribed, with any further sums that may be contributed to this object, and remit the same to the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina Yearly Meeting — and the Committee is requested to advise, on this subject, with the Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings which has heretofore had correspondence with Friends of North Carolina.

Essays of Epistles to our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, with one to the Yearly Meeting of Ireland, were read at this sitting, and being considered, are directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such verbal alterations as may appear necessary, and forwarded to those Meetings, signed by him on our behalf.

The Clerk is directed to furnish our friends from abroad, with Minutes, agreeably to essays proposed.

The Clerk is also directed to make all necessary Extracts from our Minutes, and sign them on our behalf.

Having

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having through the several sittings of this Meeting been enabled to transact the concerns of the Church that have come before us, in much unanimity and sweetness, and as we humbly trust, under a degree of that influence, which is the crown of all our assemblies; grateful for this renewed extension of Divine favour, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island, in the sixth month next.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Sherman, Jr. Clerk

Epistles forwarded, 1826

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London.

Dear Friends,

Your truly acceptable Epistle of last year has been read in this Meeting, and we have thereby been made sensibly sensible, that the fellowship of the Gospel is still witnessed in our religious Society; — a fellowship springing from a unity of faith and similarity of religious exercise. And this precious fellowship, we are encouraged to believe, will continue and increase amongst us as a people, as we are concerned to walk by the same rule, and to mind the same thing. True Christian humility is doubtless a most efficient means of our preservation as one people. — Viewing ourselves in the light of dependent creatures, the objects of the assaults of one common enemy, and the subjects of one common grace, purchased for us by that one sacrifice of our dear Lord and Master, a united concern to value and improve this precious means of preservation will be felt. — "For if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son, cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1. 7.

In circumstances of deep trial and conflict, it is a source of encouragement to believe, that in the path of the Christian, it is no new thing to be tried. In all ages of the Church, it has been consistent with the merciful dealings of God with his people, that they should be tried and oft times deeply proved. — "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth out of them all."

We are convinced that no attainment among those promised, and which are to be hoped for, from a fixed devotion of the heart unto God, is more to be desired, than a clear discernment between the voice of the true Shepherd and the voice of the Stranger. "My sheep hear my voice, — and they follow me, — and a stranger they will not follow." — That this capacity to discern the voice of him who speaketh as never man spake, may become the happy attainment of more

amongst us, we have earnestly desired, from the conviction of our great liability to be deceived by the grand adversary; "And no marvel; "saith the Scriptures, "for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing, if his ministers be also transformed as the ministers of righteousness, whose end shall be according to their works." 2d Cor. XI. 14, 15.

We unite with you in desire, that the truths of our holy religion, and the principles that we as a religious Society profess, may be more generally known, from a conviction, that these truths, as they are embraced in the spirit of them, do produce the highest happiness to man in this life, and that they bring to light the assurance of a happy immortality in that which is to come, through the mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Although removed from the immediate scenes of cruelty and oppression, of which our brethren of the African race are the objects, we have not been unmindful of their unhappy condition, nor of the duty we owe to the cause of humanity, to embrace every right opportunity for interference on their behalf. The internal traffic in slaves, in some parts of our own country, as we have had fresh cause to believe, is a source of much suffering to those who are the objects of it, and a fruitful cause of wickedness and crime in those who are engaged in it.

We have at this time the very acceptable company of our friends Elizabeth Robson, Isaac Braithwaite, and Anna Braithwaite, from your Country.

With the salutation of love, we remain, Your Friends,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Being assembled for the purpose of transacting the important concerns of our religious Society, our dear brethren in Europe, have been brought near to our remembrance; and although far separated from you, yet being sensible that the love of God through Jesus Christ is unbounded, we are drawn in a measure of this love to address you, and salute you in the language of the Apostle; 'Grace be unto you, and peace from God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ;' and may the God of peace so condescend to strengthen your faithful endeavours, that in the end you may receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

The feeling of Gospel love is often reciprocated through the labours of our dear friends from beyond the Atlantic, whose visits amongst us have been truly comforting and edifying. — May we all duly appreciate the great privileges we enjoy, and be truly thankful for the many benefits we receive from the hands of a gracious Providence. — May we double

our

1826. our diligence to run with patience the race that is set before us "looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Heb. 12. 2.

Among the various classes in the great family of man, made of the same blood, and formed for the same glorious end, we have been called to commiserate the sufferings of the degraded sons of Africa, who have long been exposed to many hardships and cruel slavery——May their cause find increasing advocates; and may the period soon arrive when professing Christians throughout the world, shall unite in one joint effort utterly to abolish this species of oppression.

When we look forward towards the future prospects of our Society, our minds are drawn in tender solicitude towards the rising generation, on whom must ere long devolve the invaluable testimonies committed unto us by our worthy predecessors: May then the dear youth receive them in their purity; and may they "bind the law of the Lord upon their fingers" Prov. 7. 3. and write it upon the table of their hearts, that they may tell it unto their children & the latest generation. Youth is a peculiar season of improvement, and may our tender offspring grow up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, which will lay the foundation for a life of usefulness, that whether the days allotted to this state of existence be few or many, the closing period will be joy and peace.

May those who are in the meridian of life, so walk with firmness, in the straight and narrow path, that others seeing their good works may glorify our Father who is in heaven.——And may those who are fast hastening to the close of time, be encouraged to hold on their way steadfastly to the end, that so their declining sun may go down in brightness, and they receive the answer of well done.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Sharman, Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the fourth month last has been received and read in this our annual assembly. We have also received similar communications from the several Meetings with which we have correspondence; and we have been renewedly desirous, that in our intercourse with our absent brethren, we may, as in every other movement in the Church be willing to wait as at Jerusalem, the quiet habitation, until we feel a qualification to step forward for the promotion of the cause of truth. We believe, that short of such a qualifi-

caution, our labours will not unlike us to the servants of dividend servants, nor be accompanied with the Divine blessing to our own edification.

We notice, with satisfaction, that you are still advocating the cause of suffering humanity, and pleading the rights of the oppressed Africans. — Though we are remote from the painful scenes of slavery, yet we have at this time been afresh introduced into exercise on account of this much oppressed people, and we believe that their deplorable condition has a claim for active exertion in their emancipation from bondage.

Though in reviewing the state of Society, as unfolded to us in the answers to the Queries, many deficiencies have been manifested in the faithful maintenance of our various testimonies; yet from the harmony that has prevailed in attending to the concerns of Society before us; and from a sense of the presence of the Good Shepherd, we believe that the Divine Master is still disposed to bless his people with the blessing of preservation; and that those who are clothed with humility will have reverently to acknowledge him as their deliverer and preserver.

It appears by accounts received of our Boarding School at Providence, that it still affords a hopeful prospect of usefulness to the youth of our Society.

Believing as we do, that the watchful will be preserved, the humble instructed, and the meek guided in judgment, we conclude, and with the salutation of brotherly love, remain,

Your Friends,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Sam'l Cl'k.

To the Yearly Meeting of New York.

Dear Friends,

Through the mercy of our heavenly Father, we are once more permitted to meet together in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and have been favoured to transact the important concerns that have come before us, with much unanimity and brotherly love. And notwithstanding our many deviations from the path of rectitude, and our unworthiness of Divine regard; yet we are renewedly made sensible, that the Lord is well disposed to do us good. A living concern has been manifested at this time, that our minds may be strengthened through a renewed dedication of heart; that we may be enabled to present our bodies living sacrifices, holy and acceptable unto God. That is which is our reasonable service. Thankfulness in believing, that the fundamental doctrines of Christianity which we profess to support, are still precious to many amongst us, and that Zion's watchmen are still enabled to sound an alarm in the holy mountain. — Let us, dear Friends, hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, that through patience and perseverance we may be found worthy to inherit the promise of eternal life. — For

1825. we have the consoling assurance in the declaration of the prophet, that they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

The unwearied adversary is endeavouring to draw us from the right path, by plausible appearance of liberty; into which if we give heed we have reason to fear our minds will become enveloped in darkness, until like the heath in the desert, we shall not know when good cometh. May we be favoured by prayer and supplication to discover all his transformations, humbly imploring divine goodness to increase our faith. May those who are parents look well to the responsibility incumbent on them in training the minds of their tender offspring; that they may incline their ears to the voice of right instruction; to remember their Creator in the days of their youth. For to the beloved youth must ere long be committed the law and the testimony; when the ancients among us shall be called from work to reward.

It is a source of strength and comfort to mingle our exercises in the cause of truth and righteousness; to endeavour to render mutual encouragement to persevere in the ways of well doing; and we consider the medium of Epistolary communication calculated to promote this object.

We have received your acceptable Epistle of last month, which was read to our satisfaction; and we trust we are favoured to salute you in a measure of that love that acknowledges you our Friends & Brethren.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Having been permitted to meet again in this our Annual Assembly, and renewedly to experience the overshadowing goodness of our heavenly Father, we are concerned to commemorate his love and to speak forth his praise; for truly his mercy endureth forever. To Him may our hearts reverently bow, rendering to Him his due; and may we seek after an ability to serve Him with sincere devotion, for as saith the Psalmist, "Happy is the people whose God the Lord is."

Keeping on this foundation, "the love of God," the law and the testimonies which we have received from Him would be maintained; our Meetings for Worship would not be neglected; love and unity one towards another would not be broken; the fatherless and the widows would be visited in their afflictions; and the feelings of benevolence and love would every where predominate.

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received and read; in which we notice your allusion to the subject of Slavery, and that an ardent desire was manifested among you, that our interesting testimony in this respect may be advanced; in this we rejoice, believing it to be an evi-

dence of the love of God; and that as this concern is abided in, it will be unto the undoing of trials & doubts and letting the mind go free. — We cordially desire that no discouragement may assail you in this good work.

It is also grateful to our minds, to be informed of your continued attention to some of our Indian Brethren of the West; some of those of the East, the Senecas tribe, continue to excite our sympathy and care; and we are encouraged to hope that our attention has not been turned to them in vain, as from the reports of our Committee they are more inclined to cultivate their lands, to raise cattle, and to furnish themselves with more permanent and comfortable dwellings.

Our Meeting has been as large as usual, having a good share of the company of our beloved youth; and the business which has come before us has been conducted in much unanimity and brotherly feeling.

Accept, dear Friends, the salutation of our love, in which we remain your Friends and Brethren.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

In a degree of that love which remains to be the badge of true discipleship, do we at this time affectionately salute you, and inform that your Epistle of last year was received and read to our comfort. And feeling our minds clothed with desires that we may be enabled to walk in the light, that we may thus experience the continuance of the true fellowship one with another. But in order to this we are sensible that it is necessary to have all the imaginations and willings of the creature brought down, and our thoughts brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ; and though in attaining to this state of self-abasement, we may have many trials, temptations, and besetments of the enemy to encounter; yet through all, may it be the language of our hearts, "Lord, thy will be done." Our conflicts, at times, may be great, comparable to that of the Patriarch when he wrestled with the Angel, who notwithstanding he received a wound in the flesh, yet continued steadfast, saying, "except thou bless me, I will not let thee go."

We are persuaded, dear Friends, that it is a great attainment to be resigned, on all occasions, to the will of our heavenly Father; yet this resignation is so essential to our sanctification and redemption, that it ought to be our deep engagement of heart; and he who is strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present Helper in the needful time, we are persuaded will so baptize us into the likeness of his death, that hard things will become easy, and bitter things sweet

1826. and we shall be made to reign with him in the likeness of his resurrection.

Our Boarding School continues to be increasingly useful, and we believe that the concern of Friends in this Institution has been blessed. May it be our engagement to promote the cause of Truth, by our endeavours gradually to educate the rising generation.

We feel sympathy with you, in regard to the afflicting situation of our African brethren who are held in Slavery; and seeing that our humble endeavours are crowned with a degree of success, may we not neglect any favourable opportunity to ameliorate their sufferings, and restore them to their rights as freemen.

With the renewed salutation of our love, we remain,

Your friends and brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid

Abraham Sharman, Jun.r Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the 11th Month last has been duly received.

We are thankful in believing, that He, who of old graciously manifested himself to his people, is still near to us, disposed to do us good, as we are willing to accept his gracious invitations, casting our cares upon Him, and humbly trusting in Him. — The necessity of thus humbling ourselves before God, under a sense of our own unworthiness, and our need of redeeming and preserving grace, has been renewedly felt, and desires have been raised, that our only dependence might be placed on the arm of Divine power.

Although there remain among us those who are falling short of that full devotion to the cause of Truth which our profession requires, yet we have not been caused to be discouraged, but rather from the view that there are many, who with humility are endeavouring to support the consistency of the Christian character, we are desirous to thank God and take courage.

The situation of Friends of your Yearly Meeting, as it respects the people of colour under your care, has been feelingly brought before us, by the correspondence with your Meeting for Sufferings. We are aware that it is difficult for us, situated as we are at a distance from the immediate scenes of suffering attendant on Slavery, to enter with clearness into what we may well believe, must be your feelings on this account. — But the precarious and distressed situation of that people, has had our sympathy, and while we have felt for them, we have also been enabled in measure to enter into sympathy with you on their account, and your long tried and burthened situation, has

seemed to us to have just claim for such means of relief as Friends may be enabled to afford. We see difficulties and discouragements on every hand, and strong desires are felt, that any movements which may be made for the relief of this unhappy people, may be made in best wisdom, not doubting that your superior opportunities of information as to the means best to be pursued, will enable you to adopt that course in relation to it, which under all the circumstances, may best attain the end in view, the rescue of these unhappy people and their offspring from a cruel and unrighteous bondage.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Through the goodness of our heavenly Father we have been permitted to meet at this time for the discharge of the duties which devolve on a Yearly Meeting, and find cause for renewed thankfulness in believing, that a portion of that love which binds together the members of the militant church, and which gathered us to be a people, is witnessed at this time, tending to draw together and unite in the bonds of Christian fellowship, and enabling us in some degree to participate in the evidence of being followers of Him who said, "by this shall all men know that ye are my Disciples, if ye have love one to another."

On reviewing our present state, we have cause to be humbled for apparent deficiences in the faithful discharge of those Christian duties which more peculiarly devolve on us, and we have also been encouraged in the belief, that many through the power which reduces into a state of self-denial, and a willingness to take up the cross, are engaged in their performance. As we are a highly professing people, it is incumbent on us that our conduct be consistent with this profession, that so we may not be the cause of stumbling to honest inquirers after truth; but rather, that they seeing our good works, may glorify our Father who is in heaven.

The condition of our African brethren in some parts of our country has again claimed our commiseration. We feel deeply interested on their account, and greatly desire that the day may arrive, when they being children of the same family, may enjoy the privileges of freedom in common with ourselves.

Our esteemed friend Elisha Bates, from your Yearly Meeting is acceptably with us at this time.

We have received acceptable Epistles from London, and from all the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and in the renewed persuasion that Epistolary correspondence, strengthens the bond of fellowship, we salute you, and are

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk

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1826

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Your Epistle of the tenth month last, came duly to hand, and was read in this Meeting to our satisfaction. We are induced to believe that our correspondence with our dis-tant Brethren is in the direction of best wisdom, and if continued under the influence of that which gathers into one, our Society will continue to be benefitted by such an intercourse. And it has been the breathings intercession of many exercised minds at this time, that the Lord would not forsake his people in the day of their distress, saying with the Royal Psalmist, Psalm 27.9. Leave me not, nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.

We are very desirous for such as are failing in the support of the testimonies delivered to our ancient wor-thies, that they may be brought to a sense of their con-dition, and preserved in the unity of the body; and many those who are exercised and concerned for the support of the good cause, by a constant reliance on the arm of Is-raels Helper, witness the blessing of preservation, and by abiding on the only safe ground of humility, experience a growing stronger and stronger in the Lord, and a holding fast their faith in our dear Redeemer.

We have observed with satisfaction in your Epistle, your earnest solicitude for the welfare of the rising gen-eration; in this concern, dear Friends, we participate with you, feeling a lively interest in their preservation and suitable instruction, that the youth in our Society may receive the blessing of a religious and guarded education -that they may early be made acquainted with the Scrip-tures of Truth, that so their minds may be more effectually prepared for the influence of the Divine prin-ciple. And however much the care of Society may be extended in providing the means of a more public ed-ucation, yet we are sensible that this care, by which some of our Children, as we trust, are greatly benefitted, does not lessen the obligations of parents and friends in their different neighbourhoods, in a more individual care of their tender offspring. We desire that the hands of those who have the immediate charge of Children, with you and us, may be strengthened, in a concern in which so much responsibility is involved, seeing that a Hope-ful succession in our Society is so dependent on our faithfulness in this duty.

The care you are extending towards the Indian tribes, and the feelings of commiseration, manifested by you for the enslaved Africans, has met our cordial approbation, and we desire that your labours in these benevolent concerns may be blessed with success.

We have been mer-cifully favoured at this time to transact the business which has come before us, in much harmony, and under a sense thereof, we conclude, and remain your friends and Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Sharman, Clerk

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with Publick Meetings for worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First Day the 10th of Sixth Month, 1827, — and on Second-Day morning, the 11th at Newport, for Discipline.

Accounts were received from all our Quarterly Meetings; the Friends therein named as Representatives, are — For Rhode Island; William Almy, Jonathan Congdon, Thomas Anthony, Daniel Brayton, John Wilbur, Stephen Gould. — Salem; Thomas Davis, Isaac Bassett, Jr. Jonathan Nichols, William Fry. — Sandwich, Daniel Jaber, Seth Killey, Peleg Mitchell, Jr. James Tucker, Joseph Swift, Stephen Rogers. — Falmouth, Stephen Jones, Samuel H. Hussey, William Ticket, William Cobb. — Smithfield, Rowland Nathan, Jesse Batty. Effingham, Caleb Capron, Jonathan Fry, Moses Farnum. — Vassalborough, Moses Sleeper, Josiah Gifford, Ebenr Pope. — Dover, Joshua Manter, Joseph Tuttle, Eli Varney, Asa Arnold, and Joshua Jenkins — who are all present but one, for whose absence a satisfactory reason is assigned.

We have at this Meeting, the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Thomas Shillitoe, Georg and Ann Jones and Isaac Braithwaite, from Great Britain; Valentine Nicholson of Starr, Borough Monthly Meeting, Vermont; Samuel Parsons, of Flushing Monthly Meeting, New York; and William Miller, of Salem Monthly Meeting, New Jersey; whose respective Certificates, and Minutes of concurrence with their present religious engagements, were read to our satisfaction.

The London general Epistle of last year was read in this Meeting, to our edification and comfort. — Acceptable corresponding Epistles from our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were also read. — Thomas Rowland, John Wilbur, Edwd Cobb, Peleg Hedrick, William Almy, Rowland Greene, Stephen Chase, John Osborne, Stephen Gould, George Mitchell, Samuel B. Jaber, John R. Davis, Samuel H. Hussey, Moses Sleeper, Moses Brown, and Matthew Purinton, are appointed to take said Epistles into consideration, and as way may open for it, prepare Essays of communications to those Yearly Meetings, and lay before this at a future sitting.

All our Quarterly Meetings inform, that they have directed the payment to our Treasurer, of their proportions of the

John Farnham, Isaac Bassett, Jr. William Cobb, Seth Russell, Ebenr Pope, Joshua Jenkins, and Walter Allen, are appointed to audit the Treasurer's Accounts; consider of a sum proper to be raised for the ensuing year, and propose a Treasurer — to report at a future sitting.

We are informed by R. Island Quarterly Meeting that it has united with their respective Mo. Meetings in the appointment to the station of Elders, of Joseph Mott, of Smithfield and Lydia C. Smith, of Providence; Hannah Almy, of R. Island; Ethan Foster, of S. Kingstown, and Phebe Congdon, of Greenwich; and with R. Island Mo. Mg. in approving the publick ministry of Mary Hicks — By Sandwich that it has united with their respective Mo. Meetings, in a concurrence

1827. the Publick. Ministry of George Mitchell, of Scituate.
William Gifford and Joshua Swift, of Sandwich; and Sarah
Davis, of New Bedford. The Yearly Meeting
Meeting in the appointment of Rachel Swain; and the New
Bedford, in the appointment of Elizabeth Rotch, to the sta-
tion of Elders; and with the latter Monthly Meeting, in disap-
proving the publick ministry of Experience Shearman.
The Yassalborough Quarterly Meeting, that it has united
with Yassalborough Monthly Meeting, in the appointment
of Paul Sabin and Ebenezer Pope to the station of Elders,
and in approving the publick ministry of Hannah Gifford
and Abigail Nichols; with China Monthly Meeting, in the ap-
pointment of Robert Hanson, Sophia Jones, and Rachel
Jones to the station of Elders; with Sidney Monthly Meeting
in approving the publick ministry of Samuel Taylor,
and with Seeds, in the appointment of Noah Starr, to the
place of an Elder.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Friends again met.

The Representatives having proposed Thomas Shear-
man, junr. as Clerk; and Stephen A. Chase, as Assistant
Clerk; their appointment is united with by this Meeting.

Having at this time, (in addition to the Friends
named in a preceding minute,) the acceptable company of
our beloved Friends Anna Braithwaite, of Great Britain;
Elizabeth Coggeshall, of New York; Joanna Meader,
of Starksborough Monthly Meeting, Vermont; Phila Griffin,
of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, and Sarah H. Upton, of Creek
Monthly Meeting, State of New York; and Catherine M. Mor-
ris, of Philadelphia; satisfactory Certificates and minutes
of concurrence with their present religious engagements, were
read at this sitting.

The following report of the Boarding School Com-
mittee, being read and considered, is acceptable to this Meeting;
and the Clerk is directed to forward copies thereof to our
several Quarterly Meetings, that it may be transmitted
by them to the Monthly Meetings: viz.

"The Yearly Meeting Boarding School Committee
Report, That they have given their attention to the concerns
of the Institution, during the past year, and it is satisfa-
factory to them to be able to state to the Yearly Meeting,
that it continues to afford an encouraging prospect of use-
fulness to the Society.

"The School is still under the charge of Enoch and
Lydia Reed, as Superintendents. Isaiah Jones, David
Daniels, George Jones, Abigail Peirce, and Mary Almy, are
employed as Teachers. The average number of Scholars, for
the year past, has been one hundred and ten. Meetings
for Worship have been regularly held, and have frequently
been attended by some of the Committee. The family has been
preserved in harmony, and the general conduct and improvement
of the Children have been satisfactory.

"The account of the Treasurer of the School Fund has been audited and settled. The receipts for board and tuition [illegible] the income of the fund, have proved about equal to the expenditure. It is again concluded to admit one child from each monthly meeting for one or two children, three months each, free of expense, provided their term be accomplished within the year succeeding the Yearly Meeting.

"The Yearly Meeting having received the additional sum of fifty thousand Dollars, the annual income of which was bequeathed for the benefit of this Institution, by our late friend Obadiah Brown, we have concluded to propose to the Yearly Meeting, that children who are members of this Yearly Meeting, be admitted after the first of Seventh Month next, at fourteen Dollars per quarter; and that the Committee consider such surplus as may remain, to be at their disposal in aid of the charitable fund of the Institution, having a prudent regard to the present and probable general expenses thereof. "We are desirous that it may be generally understood, and particularly by the Committees of the Monthly Meetings, that all applications for the admission of children who are not members of our Society, must be made to the Acting Committee, at Providence; and that all applications for the admission of Boys who are Members, if over the age of four teen years, must be made to the same Committee, [which meets at the School House in Providence, on the third day following the last fifth day in each month.]

"We feel it to be our duty, again to recommend to the attention of Parents and others having the care of children, and to the Committees of Monthly Meetings, the previous advices of this Committee on the interesting subject of Stationers and particularly the Minutes accompanying our Report in 1826 which were printed and distributed by direction of the Yearly Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,
Moses Brown,
Mary A. Robinson."

Providence, 5th M. 4, 1827.

The Friends appointed as by minute of last year to receive from the Executors and Residuary Legatees of our late friend Obadiah Brown, the Legacy which became due to this Meeting, for the benefit of its Boarding School at Providence, on the decease of Dorcas Brown, widow of the Donor, made the following Report.

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.

"We your Committee appointed to settle with Moses Brown, William Almy and William Jenkins, and give up their Obligation for fifty thousand Dollars, given by them to the Yearly Meeting, have attended to the subject, and have received of the said Moses Brown, William Almy and William Jenkins, a transfer of certain Bank Stocks, made and executed to the Yearly Meeting, which appeared to us, and to a Committee appointed by the School Committee, with whom the Treasurer of the School Fund was to advise, in regard to the investment of funds, was to the full value of fifty thousand Dollars. Transfer

and

1827. and Certificates of which we have placed in the hands of Moses Brown, as Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting of Friends, as will appear by his Receipt herewith presented.

Providence, 7th mo. 6th, 1826. David Buffum
Thomas Rowland,
Jonathan Congdon,
Rowland Greene."

which is accepted by this Meeting, and with the Receipt of the Treasurer, directed to be recorded.

[For copy of Treasurer's Rec.t see page 131, of this Book.]

Stephen A. Chase who was appointed, as by minute of our last Yearly Meeting, to settle with Benjamin Folsom, Executor of the last Will and Testament of his brother, Thomas Folsom, deceased, and to give him a discharge on behalf of this Meeting, made the following report.

"Agreeably to my appointment by the Yearly Meeting last year, I have settled with Benjamin Folsom, Executor of the last Will and Testament of Thomas Folsom, late of Epping, New Hampshire, deceased, for the legacy given in and by said Will for the encouragement and support of the Rhode Island Yearly Meeting School Institution at Providence; an account of which settlement accompanies this report. The amount of said Legacy is three thousand, five hundred, thirty seven dollars, thirty one cents — three thousand, three hundred and ninety three dollars, and sixteen cents of which has been heretofore received by the Treasurer of the School Fund; and the balance amounting to One hundred forty four dollars and fifteen cents, I have received of said Executor, and placed in the hands of the Treasurer of the School Fund, as by his receipt herewith presented. I have also given a discharge to said Executor, agreeably to the minute of my appointment, a copy of which accompanies this report.

Stephen A. Chase.

To the Yearly Meeting.
6th mo. 1827.

which being read, is accepted, and with the receipt of the Treasurer, directed to be recorded, and the accounts accompanying placed on file.

[For rec.d See page 131, of this Book.]

Adjourned to the third hour to morrow afternoon.

Third-day afternoon, the 12th.
Met by adjournment.

The Meeting proceeded to the consideration of the State of Society, as presented in the answers to the Queries, which were gone through with; and the deficiences therein unfolded to our view, were deeply exercising to many minds, and gave rise to much pertinent and feeling counsel and advice.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth-day morning, the 13th.

Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

The following summary is meant to embrace the substance of the answers to the Queries:

All our Meetings for worship and Discipline have been duly held, with the exception of two omitted this the inclemency of the weather, and one, for the neglect of which no reason is assigned. First day meetings appear to have been generally attended by most Friends; yet some are deficient herein, and mid-week meetings are neglected by many of our Members. Mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour, a few instances of sleeping excepted..... Love and unity are in a good degree maintained by most Friends, though not so fully as Truth requires, and in some instances are much wanting.—Detraction appears to be mostly guarded against, but not sufficiently so by all. Care is taken to end differences..... Some Friends are careful to bring up those under their direction, in plainness, to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation, and are exemplary herein themselves—yet there is much deficiency in these respects, and in some instances a good example is wanting. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends' families..... Friends are generally careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors, except for medicine; though a few make too common a use of them; also to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns & places of public resort; some instances of deviation are under notice.— Moderation appears to be maintained on the occasions referred to in the query..... The circumstances of the poor are attended to.—In a few instances, children have been placed from among Friends; in some of which, care has been taken..... Friends are mostly careful that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline.—Some instances of deviation in marrying out, and keeping company on account of marriage are under notice..... Except a few instances of failure in the full support of our testimony against the payment of Priests wages; this testimony, as well as that against War, and against defrauding the revenue, appear to be generally maintained..... Friends are mostly careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts; and with few exceptions, punctual in the performance of their promises and payment of their debts; and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances..... Our records are generally attended to, yet there is some deficiency in recording births and deaths. A few removals without certificate are under notice..... Care is generally taken to deal with offenders in a good degree as required, but in some instances there has been too much delay: and to bear judgment according to Discipline

Mo appoint Peter Lawton, William Almy; Stephen A. Chase, Isaac Russell, jun.; Francis Tabor, Cornelius Howland; John Osborne, Rowland Rathbun; Eli Cobb, Samuel T. Hussey; Ebenr. Cobb, Moses Sleeper; Nath. Davis, and Joseph Tuttle, to propose to a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a Committee on the part of this Meeting; for the government and superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence.

The Committee which has been under appointment for two years past, to visit Falmouth and Dover Quarterly Meetings, now made the following report.

"To the Yearly Meeting, now sitting.

"Dear Friends,

"A part of the Committee to visit Dover and Falmouth Quarterly Meetings, on account of difficulties and a want of unity amongst them; proceeded to Portland and Falmouth in the eighth month last; attended their Select preparative Meeting, and their Monthly Meeting for business, and visited some families, and being joined by others of the Committee, in company with Falmouth Quarterly Meeting's Committee, made a general visit to such families and individuals as were involved in the disaffection that had so seriously taken place in that Meeting; attended their Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, and Quarterly Meeting of business; in all which, it is with gratitude we may, justly remark, that the same pure influence that formerly calmed the raging sea, was felt to be near; and on the part of the visited, a corresponding disposition with that of the Committee, was found, to have the breaches healed, and the waste places built up; that a final settlement was effected, and all disputes terminated, and peace and harmony in a fair way to be again restored. A part of the Committee also attended the Quarterly Meeting of Dover, and visited some individuals, and used their endeavours to have some difficulties removed which unhappily existed in that Quarter. How far the latter endeavours of a part of the Committee in this Quarter may be availing, we cannot at present say. Thus much we are informed, that things as yet remain quiet in the instance to which we allude.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Moses Sleeper

Sixth Mo. 12th, 1827. Benjn. Freeborn

which being read, is accepted,— the result of their labours is satisfactory to us; and we think it safe to release the Committee from further attention to the service assigned them.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's Accounts, and for other purposes, made the following report. viz.

The

"The Committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's accts. have examined the same, and find a balance in his hands, of One hundred & fifty three $ 48 100 Dollars — and propose giving the sum of six hundred Dollars for the use of the Yearly Meeting, — & William Hoag for Treasurer. —

Newport, 6th mo 13, 1827. Walter Allen, } In behalf of Committee.
Jn°. Farnum }

To the Yearly Meeting, now sitting

which being considered, is accepted and in conformity therewith Wm. Hoag is appointed Treasurer, and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him their respective proportions of $600. — The sum proposed to be raised. E. R. Island, $180 — Salem, $60. — Sandwich $232. — Balm°. $20. — Smithfield, $60. — Vassalboro', $18. — Dover, $30. — $600.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, met by adjournment. —

1 Moses Brown,	William Jenkins,	John Brown,	Clark Shaw
2 — David Buffum.	Walter Allen	Thomas Howland,	Geo. W. Howland,
3 Benjamin C. Hoag.	Joseph Metcalf,	Stephen A. Chase,	Thomas Fry,
William Hoag.	James Tucker,	Arnold Congdon,	Silas Earl,
Edward Cobb,	Jon°. Congdon,	Nathan Buffington,	Moses Farnum,
Daniel Howland,	John Farnum,	Rowl°. Rathbun,	Ahab Arnold
Jon°. Dennis,	Rowland Greene,	Royal Southwick,	Isaac Pusey Jr.
William Slade,	Daniel Buffum, Jr.	Moses Mosher,	Rich°. Dawe
Nicholas Congdon,	Wm. Buffum, Jr.	John Osborne	Ebenr. Pope
Sam°. F. Hussey,	Benj°. Freeborn,	Daniel Clapp	David Rodman
Abijah Chase,	Stephen Gould,	Abr°. Shearman Jr.	&
John Wilbur,	Effingr. L. Capron,	Stephen Jones,	Tho°. Anthony

being proposed by the Committee of this morning, are appointed to unite with such Friends as may be appointed by the Women's Meeting, to compose a Committee for the Government and superintendence of the School, for the year ensuing; and to act therein on behalf of this Meeting, conformably to the direction and authority heretofore given said Committee.

A testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting, concerning our late friend, Micajah Collins, was read in this Meeting, and being approved, is directed to be placed on Record. And as there are divers Testimonials of deceased Friends now on record, that have never been printed, it is recommended to this Meeting for Sufferings to make a careful inspection of said testimonies, with a view, if way should then open for it, to the publication of them, or of such extracts as they may deem it expedient to make.

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends, appointed to visit our Quarterly and other Meetings, made the following report:

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends, now sitting.

Dear Friends,

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends, appointed in 1825, and continued last year, to visit the subordinate Meetings hereunto belonging, and afford our advice and encouragement to them, as way might open for, report that

that a number of the Committee have at different times attended to the object of their appointment, have visited nearly all the Quarterly, and several of the Monthly and Particular Meetings, and laboured therein, as ability was afforded, for the promotion of Truth, and for the right ordering of things among us; which visits have been well accepted by our Friends where they have been made

On behalf of the Committee,

Rowland Greene,
Hannah Dennis.

Newport, 8mo 13th, 1827

which being considered, is satisfactory to the Meeting, and the Committee is released from further attention to the objects of their appointment.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, and the attention thereby manifested to the concerns of Society that have come before them, is satisfactory to this Meeting.

The Friends now under appointment, with the exception of Micajah Collins, deceased, are continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, agreeably to the constitution of that Meeting.

The subject of the more extensive circulation of suitable Books, explanatory of the doctrines and peculiar testimonies of our Society, claiming the attention of this Meeting, it is our conclusion that the Meeting for Sufferings be encouraged to pay attention to this subject, in order that our Members may be more generally provided with such publications.

The Meeting for Sufferings is authorised to appoint a Committee, agreeably to their recommendation, to extend a friendly and suitable assistance to Friends from the Yearly Meetings, who may be led, from time to time, to visit us in the service of Truth.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fifth-Day morning, the 14th.

Met by adjournment.

The State of Society at the present time, having claimed our solid and deliberate consideration, the many deficiences in the body at large, brought a renewed exercise over this Meeting, — and we appoint Wm Hunt, John R. Davis, Moses Sleeper, Edward Cobb, Rowland Greene, John Wilbur, Stephen Jones, Thomas Rowland, and Abm Shearman, Junr to unite with a similar Committee of the Women's Meeting, in visiting our several Quarterly, Monthly, and particular Meetings, (and individuals, should occasion require,) as way may open in the Truth; and to endeavour to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles & testimonies, by imparting such counsel and advice as they may respectively stand in need of, and the Committee be enabled in true Wisdom to afford. A report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee on Indian concerns, made the following report:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"A part of the Committee on the subject of the Penobscot tribe of Indians, towards the Latter part of the fourth Mo last, went on to the Penobscot River; had several interviews with the Indian Agent at Bangor; thence proceeded to the River, visited most of their settlements; and are now able to state, that they are still progressing in agriculture; have made some additions in building, in which we have afforded them some assistance; since our last report, there is also an increase of their neat stock and other domestic animals; in the extension of their cultivated lands, and in raising crops, such as hay, corn, wheat, potatoes, and various vegetables, they have the last year considerably exceeded any preceding year; a greater number of them appear to be more disposed for farming than heretofore; and a spirit of emulation appears to be kindling up in many of those who have not hitherto paid much attention to the subject. — It was thought desirable by the Committee, that some personal attention should be paid in getting in their seed; accordingly Noah Read, of Windham, one of our number, attended to that service; and from the time that he left home, spent about four weeks amongst them; giving them such counsel and advice as he deemed most for their improvement. — We are inclined to believe that some further attention from the Yearly Meeting, should way open for it, would be salutary to them.

On behalf of the Committee.

Newport, 6th Mo 12, 1827. Moses Sleeper.

Expenses $35.—
articles furnish. 9.—
paid in building 24.— } $68.—
Nails Iron

which report being considered, the attention given by the Committee to the objects of their appointment, is satisfactory to the Meeting. — And as we are induced to believe, that the improvements which this people are making in agriculture, in the erection of buildings for their more comfortable accommodation, and in other conjects of civilized life, are in great measure owing to the encouragement of the Committee in turning their attention to these objects. — the Friends now under appointment, with the addition of William Almy, Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, and Stephen A. Chase, are requested to extend further care and assistance, as way may open; and report to our next Yearly Meeting. The Treasurer is authorised to pay to Moses Sleeper, sixty-eight dollars the sum expended by the Committee.

The Committee appointed last year, to remit to Friends of North Carolina, the amount subscribed in this Meeting, made the following Report:—

1827.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"We the Committee appointed to remit to Friends of North Carolina the amount of a subscription made for the benefit of the people of colour under the care of their Yearly Meeting report, that the amount subscribed was One thousand Dollars, which was remitted to Samuel Bettle, of Philadelphia, subject to the order of the Meeting for Sufferings of North Carolina. We herewith present an acknowledgment of the receipt of it, addressed to the Yearly Meeting.

Providence 6th mo 28, 1827. Jon.a Congdon,
Wm. Jenkins.

which is acceptable to the Meeting; and the acknowledgment of the receipt, by the Meeting for Sufferings of that Yearly Meeting, of the Sum remitted, directed to be placed on record as follows.

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends, in Rhode-Island.

"Dear Friends,

"The inclosed printed Address will give you a Summary view of our proceedings with regard to the transplanting of the people of colour, (under the care of our Yearly Meeting,) in free Governments; which supersedes the necessity of our giving you any further information in the present letter, and leaves us the more at liberty to hasten to acknowledge the receipt of your generous donation of One thousand Dollars. It came to hand in a very acceptable time, and we feel ourselves under the strongest obligation of grateful acknowledgement. May He who he promised to reward him that gave only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, reward you an hundred fold for your noble contribution.

We are Your Friends,

Jeremiah Hubbard,
Nathan Hunt,
Committee for the Meeting for Sufferings of North-Carolina.

22.d of 11 mo. 1826.

Jon.a Congdon,
Wm. Jenkins.

An essay of a communication to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, being read, was approved, and directed to be transmitted to them, signed by the Clerk, on our behalf.

The Clerk is directed to furnish our Friends from abroad, with Minutes, agreeable to Essays proposed.

Adjourned to the third hour this afternoon

Afternoon. Met by adjournment.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read, and being approved, are directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such verbal alterations as may appear necessary, and forwarded to those Meetings, signed by him on our behalf.

Believing that the Epistle received at this time from our friends of the Yearly Meeting of Indiana, may be usefully spread before our Members, in our subordinate Meetings, the Clerk is directed to have it transcribed, and forwarded to the

Having been favoured, through the diurnal sittings of the Meeting, as we humbly trust, to feel the renewed overshadowings of Gospel love, whereby we have been enabled to transact the various concerns that have come before us in much brotherly condescension; under a grateful sense of the continued goodness of our heavenly Father, thus mercifully extended to us, and with ardent desires, that we may be enabled to retain this sense of his mercy, when retired to our several dwellings, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island, at the usual time in the first month next.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting,
Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk

Receipts of the Treasurer of the School Fund.
[referred to in page 134. of these Records.]

Providence. 5th of 7m: 1826.

Received of David Buffum, Thomas Rowland, Nicholas Greene, and Jonathan Congdon, four of the Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island in the last month, for the purpose of receiving of William Almy, William Jenkins and myself, the amount of our obligation for fifty thousand Dollars, agreed to be received at & after the decease of Dorcas Brown, instead of the annuity of three thousand Dollars given by Obadiah Brown, deceased, in his last Will and Testament, for the use of the said Yearly Meeting's School at Providence; and also for the purpose of discharging the said Obligation; which service being accomplished, and the payment being made to the said Committee, as agreed on by the parties, with the advice and approbation of the Committee lately appointed by the School Committee to confer with the Treasurer on the subject of the investment of Funds, in Bank Stock,
viz: Fifty six and one half shares in Providence Bank.
" One hundred and four in Smithfield Union Bank.
" One hundred and eighty three shares in Manufacturers Bank, at Pawtucket.
— Transfers and Certificates for which Stock, I have received of them as Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School Fund, and I hold the same as the property of the Yearly Meeting, for the use and support of said School; amounting to Fifty thousand & forty eight Dollars, at the prices mutually agreed on; the overplus of forty eight Dollars, being paid by the Treasurer of the School Fund, by advice of the said Committee. In Witness whereof I hereunto set my hand. Moses Brown.

6th mo: 11. 1827

Received of Stephen A. Chase, authorised by the Yearly Meeting to settle with Benjamin Folsom, Executor of the last Will of Thomas Folsom, late of Epping, deceased, certain securities on Interest, amounting on the 21st of 5th Mo. last to One hundred thirty eight Dollars, thirty one Cents; and in money, five Dollars eighty four Cents, being the balance due from said Executor on settlement with him, for the legacy given by said Will to the Yearly Meeting School.

Moses Brown.

138.31
5.84
$144.15

Copies compared with the originals,
Abm. Shearman, Jr. Clk.

1827.

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England,
held on Rhode Island, in the 6th month, 1827.

To our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

Dear Friends,

In contemplating the state of Society as presented in the answers to the queries, a deep exercise was spread over this Meeting on account of the many deficiencies in the support of our various testimonies, which they brought to view, and gave rise to much pertinent and feeling counsel and advice, and to the expression of an ardent desire for the removal of things which stand in the way of our advancement, as a highly professing people; and it was thought right that an endeavour should be made to convey to our absent brethren, such an account of these and other exercises, as Friends have been led into at this season, as might lead them to participate therein, and have a tendency to strengthen and encourage the hands of the well concerned, to renewed labour in their respective allotments, and to awaken the careless and supine to a sense of their danger.

We have on this as on former occasions, been sorrowfully affected to observe the great neglect of our religious meetings, and particularly those held in the middle of the week; which is apparent in many of our members; and we would affectionately inquire if such, as thus refuse to dedicate to this "reasonable service," a small portion of that time for which they are indebted to the continued mercy of their heavenly Father, by presenting their bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto Him, and to wait upon him for the renewal of their strength, how they can ever expect to advance in the Christian path of self-denial; or when they are called upon to give an account of their stewardship, when time to them is no longer allotted in a state of probation, to lay down their heads in peace.

A more diligent perusal of the Holy Scriptures, and a frequent and reverent reading of them in our families, in a collective capacity, looking to Him for instruction, through whose inspiration they were given forth, was also feelingly recommended to us, and a lively testimony borne to the efficacy of this practice in rightly sustaining and centring the mind, during the various avocations and trials of the day.

Much concern was felt on account of the dissemination and perusal of the pernicious and hurtful publications of the present time, which we believe cannot be more impressively conveyed to our absent brethren, than in the language of the discipline of this Yearly Meeting. "We earnestly exhort all parents, heads of families, and guardians of minors, that they prevent, as much as in them lies, their children and others under their care and tuition from having and reading books and papers tending to prejudice the profession of the Christian religion, to create the least doubt concerning the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, or of those saving truths declared in them, lest their infant and feeble minds should be poisoned thereby, and a foundation laid for the greatest evils." — "And friends are desired to be careful in the choice of all books in which their children and families read, seeing there are many under the species

titles of promoting religion and morality, which contain sentiments repugnant to the truth in Christ Jesus."

And as nearly connected with this interesting subject, the more guarded education of the children and youth of this Society, was feelingly recommended to our consideration; that their tender and susceptible minds may be preserved from the contaminating influence of improper examples and associations, not only leading them off from the simplicity of the truth, and a submission to the restraints of the cross, in dress and address, and from a participation of our testimonies against the vain amusements of the world, but in many instances opening the way for improper connections in marriage; and a fervent desire was expressed, that parents and others intrusted with the care of youth may more and more become sensible of the great responsibility of the charge committed to them, and labour after a right qualification to discharge it, as in the sight of Him to whom they must give an account.

We have at this as at other times, been painfully affected by the consideration, that some of our members continue to indulge themselves in the improper use of ardent spirits; a practice peculiarly reprehensible in us, who profess herein to hold up a standard to others; and particularly so, at a time when the subject has engaged the attention of other religious societies, who are making uncommon efforts to discountenance this great evil; and we entreat of all our members not to relax in their endeavours in this respect.

We have renewedly been made sensible, that a deeper individual engagement of mind, a more fervent labour for that bread which perisheth not, is too much wanting among us; but we have been encouraged by the belief, that there are those still remaining in the various classes of society, the aged, the middle aged, and the youth, in whom a heartfelt concern for their own preservation and for the promotion of the cause of truth is livingly maintained; and as these continue to look to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, for direction and guidance in their humble endeavours, we are made thankful in believing that a blessing will attend their efforts for the removal of hurtful things from within our borders.

A more particular attention to answering the Queries in a full and explicit manner, as directed by the Discipline, is recommended to, and enjoined upon, all our subordinate Meetings.

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk

134

1827

Epistles,

to the Yearly Meetings from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 10th to the 14th inclusive, of the 6th Mo. 1827.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

We have been made thankful that we have been again permitted to meet together for the transaction of the weighty concerns of Society, and that we have been favoured, mercifully to feel the solemnizing influence of the love of God, to spread over our Meeting, producing the blessed fruits of harmony and brotherly love; and although we have to mourn over the various deficiencies which continue to exist amongst us, yet we are strengthened in the belief, that there are not a few to whom the law and the testimonies of Truth are precious, and who are concerned for their support, and that of this class, are to be found, not only among those advanced in years, but among those in the morning of life.— And great have been our desires, that such may be preserved watchful, keeping their eye single to their Divine Leader, that they may witness preservation from the many and various snares of the adversary of all good, by which he is endeavouring to entangle the unwary.

We believe it to be a time of peculiar trial, on many accounts, to those particularly, who are not by deep religious experience, rooted and grounded in the Truth. — So much is the spirit of speculation upon matters of religion abroad in the world, and such is the subtle and insinuating nature of this spirit, which under the specious names of liberality and even Christian charity, is endeavouring to lay waste the distinguishing and peculiar doctrines of Christianity, that we are concerned that all should sedulously guard against the first approaches of temptation from this quarter, remembering the injunction of our blessed Lord, "What I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch." And as watchfulness is maintained, and dedication of heart to his service experienced, we are persuaded, that He who regardeth with compassion the feeble efforts of his children, will condescend to bless and preserve such, from every hurtful thing; and as they remain faithful, to give them the reward of peace here, and the assurance of happiness hereafter.

May such evince by the consistency of their lives, by the meekness and humility of their deportment, and by the quietness of their spirits, that their faith is not dead, but that it works by love to the purifying of the heart; and by thus letting their light shine before men, they may become instrumental for the promotion of the glory of our Father, who is in heaven.

Your acceptable Epistles of last year have been received, and together with Epistles from our brethren of

of the several Yearly Meetings in this country, have been read, to our satisfaction and comfort — Giving us an evidence, that that notwithstanding the proving seasons which are permitted to us as a people, for the trial of our faith, there is yet among us, a measure of that love which cements into the one spirit, and unites in the one great cause, the promotion of truth and righteousness in the earth.

Our care for the Indian natives of the Tuscarora tribe is still continued, and we are encouraged to hope with increasing prospects of usefulness.

The guarded education of our youth, also still continues to be a concern much felt amongst us, and the report from the School under our care, encourages us in the belief, that its usefulness to Society is not diminishing.

We have had at this time with us, our esteemed friends Thomas Shillitoe, George and Ann Jones, and Isaac & Anna Braithwaite, from your country, whose company and services have been very comforting and strengthening, as well as edifying to us.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your friends and brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesd.

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle was read in our Meeting, and with those received from other Yearly Meetings, brought our distant brethren feelingly to our remembrance. We esteem it among the precious privileges of the Gospel of Christ, that its devoted servants are often introduced into deep feeling and exercise one for another, and for the Church. This privilege is not only precious from the encouragement which under its influence we may be instrumental in imparting to our fellow professors, but from the Christian satisfaction as well as edification which we often experience ourselves in being thus instrumental. — Suffering is the appointment of the devoted servants of Christ, it is through much tribulation that the righteous must enter the kingdom. May we all therefore be willing cheerfully to endure, and with the Apostle, to rejoice in our sufferings, "and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions
Col. 1.24 of Christ in our flesh, for his body's sake, which is the Church."

And we may be encouraged in the hope, that as the day of affliction is patiently endured, He who of old did mercifully arise for the deliverance of his people will arise mightily for our deliverance, "from the power of darkness," "translating us into the kingdom of his dear Son, in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Col. 1.13

Have we therefore put our trust and confidence in Him, holding fast the profession of our faith without wavering; "looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the

throne of

1827. Remembering the exhortation of the Apostle — "For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." Heb: 12. 2.

In times of trial, permitted to us as a people, we are persuaded, there is no other way of safety for us, but in recurring to those first principles, by which our predecessors in religious Fellowship were governed and preserved: and by such recurrence, we shall find that they built their faith and their hope of salvation upon the mercy of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, vouchsafed to them, even to all mankind, by virtue of that most satisfactory sacrifice and offering of himself, unto God, without the gates of Jerusalem, and applied unto them through obedience to the sanctifying influence of the Spirit of Truth upon the soul.

If there be any among us who through unwatchfulness have permitted the will and contrivance of the creature to suggest doubts of these all important truths, we would tenderly counsel such to consider, from what particular merit of ours can we hope for mercy? Shall we dare to plead our own good works before the Lord? or shall we not rather flee to the mercy of God through Jesus Christ our Lord — Laying hold on the hope that is thus set before us, and not trusting to our own imaginations — Leaving the cold and heartless teachings of "philosophy and vain deceit, after the traditions of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ; for in him dwelleth Col 2.8 "all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." And relying upon the matchless mercy and loving kindness of "our Saviour Jesus Christ, "who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of "good works." — Titus 2: 14.

Our minds have been measurably introduced into sympathy with your present tried situation, and the language of our heart hath been, May the faithful among you be preserved in patience, relying on the never failing arm of Divine regard. — And we may be encouraged by the promise, that to those who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, shall be given eternal life; but unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have cause for thankfulness in believing, that it has been mercifully owned by the overshadowing of Divine Love, under the influence whereof we have been enabled to transact the weighty concerns of Society in much brotherly condescension and harmony; and in a measure of that same love, whose cementing influence can alone truly unite us, we salute you, and remain,

Your friends and brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Sherman, Junr. Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of New York.

Dear Friends,

"Having again been permitted to assemble together for the purpose of transacting the important concerns of [illegible] your acceptable Epistle of last month has been read among us, together with Epistles from our dear Brethren

Great Britain and our fore part of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent during which many of us have been favoured in the mode of communication and a tendency to preserve and promote that harmony and brotherly love which have hitherto distinguished us as one people, separated from the nations and meetings of the world, and united in supporting the testimonies of Jesus Christ our Holy Redeemer. We are desirous that this mode of communication, which under right influence still tends to bind together the various Yearly Meetings of Friends, may be continued and may be a means of strengthening those Christian feelings which unite the living Members of the Church under one Head in one body — that notwithstanding we are divided into various Yearly Meetings we may continue to be a people devoted to the promotion of this our great & holy cause.

Although deficiencies & wear & tear amongst us not unfrequently exist there will continue to be a succession of Standard bearers dedicated to the service of the Lord.

We have been comforted at this time with the company of a considerable number of our Youth; the deportment of many of whom evince, that they are under the hearing & fear of Truth; and that their minds are qualifying for service in the Church, through the power of the cross of Christ.

By the report of our Boarding School Committee it appears that Institution has been satisfactorily conducted for the past year, and the conduct of the Scholars such as affords ground of hope, that it will continue to be a blessing, to this part of the heritage. We notice with satisfaction the improvement of the Indians under your care, and desire the work may prosper in your hands.

We have had the company of divers ministering Friends from abroad, whose Gospel labours have been strengthening and edifying to us; and we feel engaged to bless and praise the name of Israels unslumbering Shepherd that he continues to send forth faithful labourers into his vineyard.

We salute you in the love of the Gospel, and remain

Your Friends,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends.

Being again met in this our Annual assembly, we feel renewed cause of thankfulness for the privilege of thus coming together. We have received at this time your acceptable Epistle of last year, and in the feeling of Gospel love, we are induced again to salute you, believing that much good does result from this our ancient practice of epistolary correspondence, as it offers a means of expressing sympathy with our distant brethren, and as way opens, of sending forth a word to encourage the faithful to maintain their vessels in sanctification and honour. And, dear Friends, in order for this it is essential that we often retire within ourselves, and pray to the Father of all mercies that in his matchless condescension and love he would deign to remember our frailty and extend to us the support of his presence. From a want of watchfulness

1827 watchfulness unto prayer, how often has the wily serpent, "who was a liar from the beginning," gained access into the heart, and persuaded those who have thus suffered him to enter, "to deny the Lord that bought them."

We concur [illegible] in recommending to our minds at this time, that all may be watchful against vain speculation, tending to unfit the mind for distinguishing the gentle manifestations of the Spirit of Christ revealed in the soul, as well as for receiving the solemn truths recorded in the Holy Scriptures for our instruction. And as the mind of man in its unregenerate state cannot comprehend the mysteries of godliness, we desire that all may be preserved in true humility and from being led by their own carnal reason to "esteem themselves wise above what is written."

In examining the state of Society as presented to us by the answers to the queries, we have been brought into exercise on account of deficiencies in the support of some of the various and important testimonies which we feel ourselves called upon to bear, and being favoured with a covering of precious solemnity, much pertinent and tender counsel was offered by the concerned and living members of the Church. While we mourn the departures from the simplicity of Truth that are manifest, we are encouraged to believe that there are not a few among us who are humbly and faithfully endeavouring to walk in the Christian's path.

Desiring that we may all be firmly grounded and established on the "Rock of Ages, Christ Jesus — the Word that was in the beginning with God and was God, which was made flesh and dwelt amongst us," — we conclude, and are

Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Assist. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

We have at this time renewed cause, in humble thankfulness to the Father and Fountain of mercies, to acknowledge the continuance of his gracious regard to us, by the fresh manifestation whereof we have been enabled to transact the weighty concerns of the Church in a measure of the love of the Gospel, wherein we tenderly and affectionately salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the 5th Mo. last, the reading of which introduced our minds into feelings of tender sympathy with you on account of the lonely situation of many of your members.

And although it is a season of trial and deep proving, yet we have been made renewedly sensible that the Lord is still mindful of his people, and that he who hath blessed us and our forefathers with many tokens of his Divine regard, is yet waiting to shew himself gracious, his promise remaining immutable, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.

Notwithstanding there are both with you and with us, many deviations from that simplicity and sincerity of which the Truth leads into, yet let us not give way to unprofitable discouragements, but rather gird up the loins of our minds,

and press forward towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus our Lord, and we doubt not there will yet be a succession of faithful standard bearers raised up, who will shew forth in the purity of their lives, the praises of the Lord.

It affords us much satisfaction to learn, that the cause of the oppressed African still claims your attention, and we would offer you the language of encouragement to persevere in your labours to unloose their heavy burthens, and to let the oppressed go free. Our Meeting has been large, and we have been favoured with the company of many of our dear friends from abroad, and our hearts have been made glad together in the feeling of that unity of the Spirit, which is the bond of peace. Under a grateful sense whereof, we again salute you, and remain, Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Again permitted to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity, we acknowledge the superintendence of the great Head of the Church, through the gracious influence which he graciously vouchsafes to lead his followers into all Truth, and without which we can do nothing which will advance us in the way of truth and righteousness, or promote his blessed cause in the earth.

We have received visits from the Yearly Meeting in Baltimore and from those on our continent, and are comforted in believing that many remain firm, holding fast the profession of Faith in Christ and by it are enabled to do those things that are acceptable in his sight.

The concerns of Society which have come before us have been conducted in love and condescension. We are sensible of deviations from our Christian profession, which remain to be cause of exercise to the faithful, and that it is only as we become contrite to bow in reverence, imploring the aid of Divine mercy, that a participation of living faith is witnessed, and that which hinders our progress Zion-ward removed.

Your situation, as regards the people of colour claims the sympathy of Friends and we desire your encouragement in doing what may be most conducive to the happiness of that degraded and afflicted part of the human race.

Our Meeting has paid some attention to the situation of the Seneca tribe of Indians, which are within our borders. The object we have in view is their encouragement in the pursuit of agriculture and in increasing the comforts of civilized life, and we are encouraged to believe that our attention to them has been useful.

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Under a degree of that covering influence which unites the sincere hearted together in the bonds of peace, we are glad to salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your brotherly communication of the 9th month last.

1827 In looking into the state of Society as exhibited by the answers to the Queries, many deficiencies were unfolded to our view, which called forth the expression of much feeling, and many judicious remarks were made tending to the encouragement of those who feel a travail of Spirit that all things which offend may be done away from our borders.

We note, with reciprocal feelings, your concern for the future welfare of the flower of the present and hope of the succeeding generation. It has been our fervent desire, that they may so yield their hearts to the sanctifying operations of the Spirit of truth, as to follow the dictates of our holy Head, that they can say from holy experience, that his yoke is easy and his burden light. May all our dear friends who feel the cause of truth at heart, avail themselves of all suitable opportunities to open their understandings, that through the efficacious influence of Him, who knows our frame and what is best in mind of before we ask him, their hearts may be so touched as to be brought into a deep consideration of their condition, and become so renovated as to sing of his judgment and mercy.

In love, we remain your friends & brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana?

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of last tenth Month, has been received and read in this Meeting to our encouragement and edification. — We feel nearly drawn to you in brotherly love and sympathy, in which feeling we again salute you.

We have been favoured in this Meeting to conduct the concerns of the Church in much unanimity and condescension, having cause as we humbly believe, to acknowledge a heavenly covering with which our merciful Father has been pleased in some degree to cover us. Although we have been thus measurably owned by the Great Head of the Church, we find by the accounts from our subordinate Meetings that there are many deficiencies among us, which have brought this Meeting into much exercise and deep concern; and many testimonies have become by living members, who are labouring for the promotion of the welfare of our Zion, that we may be awakened to the necessity of increased vigilance and care.

It was with satisfaction that we observed in your interesting Epistle, the expression of concern that our tender offspring might be trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Many minds among us, have also been exercised upon this account, and we have greatly desired that our children may be carefully guarded from the contaminating evils of this world, in all the various forms in which they exist. May we therefore who are under the great responsibility of the profession of the cross of Christ, walk well to the discharge of all the duties attached to it. We are not without painful apprehension, that too many parents and heads of families under our name, do not sufficiently feel this responsibility in restraining those under their care from undue liberties in dress and address. Let-

in their dear Friends to be renewedly watchful in supporting this important testimony, a deviation from which leads directly to unprofitable associations with those who are not of us, and lays open the way for inclosures, heretofore known to be a means of devastation of no small consequence to us as a people.

Your information of the concern of the Shawnee nation of Indians, on account of so many among us having cast the badge that once distinguished us as the Children of the Great Spirit, excited much feeling and interest, which we believe may be productive of good. In these admonitions, dear Friends, we think we see the hand of the Lord, and that He is yet disposed to strengthen us in being preserved and distinguished from the world.

The report of our Boarding School Committee is satisfactory, and we believe that much advantage results to the Youth of our Society from this Institution. We have had with us, at this time, several Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labours in the cause of Truth have, we trust, been blessed to us.

And now, Brethren, commending us all, 'to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build us up and to give us an inheritance among them which are sanctified,' we bid you, affectionately, Farewell.

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

William Hunnewell, Jun. Clerk

1828.

1828. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, commencing with public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First Day, the fifteenth of Sixth Month, 1828, and on Second Day morning, the 16th, at Newport, for discipline. Accounts being received from all our Quarterly Meetings, Friends therein named as Representatives, are — For Rhode Island, William Almy, Daniel Howland, John Wilbur, Stephen Gould, Benjamin Buffington — Salem, Olney Thompson, Daniel Johnson, Thomas Davis, John Page — Sandwich, Abial Thing, Stephen Gibbons, Jared Tucker, Barnabas Baker, Joseph Tripp, Philip Macy — Falmouth, Noah Reed, Stephen Jones, Samuel H. Hadley, David Davis, John Milne, Jun. — Smithfield, Nicholas Paskun, Daniel Clapp, Thomas Fry, Peter Tarbox — Wells-borough, Moses Sleeper, Enoch Pickard, Thomas Chapman — Dover, John Hoag, Joshua Meader, Eli Varney, Joseph Brackett and Olney Thompson — who are all present but three, for the absence of two of whom a satisfactory reason was assigned.

We have at this Meeting, the acceptable company of our esteemed friend Jonathan Taylor, who produced satisfactory certificates from Short Creek Monthly and Quarterly Meetings Ohio, expressive of their unity with him, and his present religious engagements. Our friend Benjamin Hoyle, of Mill Water Monthly Meeting, Ohio, companion to the aforesaid Friend, is also acceptably with us.

The London general Epistle of last year, with an Epistle from the same Yearly Meeting addressed to this, and an Epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of Ireland, were read at this sitting, to our edification and comfort.

1828. All our Quarterly Meetings inform, that they have directed the payment to our Treasurer of [illegible]

We are informed by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, that it has united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Thomas Shaw to the place of an Elder — by Sandwich — that it has united with Salem Quarterly Meeting, in the appointment of Abijah Chase and by Sandwich that it has united with Scituate Quarterly Meeting, in the appointment of Mary Wing, to the same station — and by — that it has united with the Quarterly Meeting of Sandwich N.H. in approving the publick ministry of Eliza Shaw.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, Friends again met.

The Representatives being called, Abraham Shearman, for Clerk, and Stephen A Chase for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting, their appointment is united with.

Our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson, of Great Britain, being now present with us, the Certificates of unity with her ministry, and present religious engagements, in the country, which were laid before this Meeting in 1826, were again read.

We have also the acceptable company of our beloved friends Hannah Carter and, of Shrewsbury N° Meeting, New Jersey, and Mary Allinson, of Carlington N° Meeting, in the same State — the latter as companion to our friend Anna Braithwaite.

Acceptable Epistles from our friends of the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, New York, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read at this sitting.

Some interesting subjects being presented to our consideration by the reading of the Epistles now received, and the present state of our Society in this country having claimed the weighty consideration of this Meeting, we appoint, David Buffum, William Almy, Rowland Greene, Moses Shafer, John R Davis, Obadiah Davis, Noah Read, Samuel Hussey, Silas Wilbur, Thomas Rowland, Benj. Trecbow, Silas Mathews, A. N. Sherman, A. H. Jenkins, Daniel Johnson, Stephen A. Chase, John Osborne, John Hoag, Royal Southwick, Stephen Jones, Stephen Rogers, Benjamin Fry, Joshua Wheeler, Cornelius Howland, Moses Varnum, and Isaac Bassett, Jun. to take these subjects, with the state of Society, generally, into consideration, and to report to this Meeting, from time to time, the result of their deliberations thereon.

Stephen Gould, John Osborne, William Jenkins, David Rodman, Thomas Fry, David Buffum, Jun. Samuel B. Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, Thomas Rowland, Seleg Aldrich, Moses A. Cartland, William Almy, John Winslow Jun. Joseph Davis, John Farnham, Rowland Greene, & Calvin Shepherd are appointed to take into consideration the Epistles read in this and the previous sitting, and as way may open for it, prepare essays of communications to the Yearly Meetings from which they were received, and lay before this at a future sitting.

Joseph Anthony, Abijah Chase, George Howland, Jr. Wm. Hallowell Allen, Caleb Hoag & Isaac Hunter appointed to audit the Treasurer's Accounts, consider of a proper to be raised for the ensuing year, also to name a Treasurer — and make report at a future sitting.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee having been read and considered, is satisfactory to this Meeting and the Clerk is directed to forward copies thereof to our several Monthly Meetings for their information.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Boarding School Committee report, That they have given their attention to the concerns of the Institution, during the year, and feel encouraged to believe that the expectation of Friends in regard to its usefulness to the children and youth of the Society will be realized.

"The School is continued under the care of Enoch & Lydia Lord, as Superintendents; Josiah Evans, George Jones, Moses Litchfield, Abigail Evans, Mary Thorp, and Lydia H. Allen, as Teachers. The average number of scholars for the year past has been one hundred and twenty one: and their general conduct and improvement have been encouraging to the Committee. Meetings for worship have been regularly held; and occasionally attended by some of the Committee. The family has been preserved in a good degree of harmony.

"The account of the Treasurer of the School Fund has been received and audited; and the State of the Fund is such, that the Committee think it safe to propose to the Yearly Meeting, that Children who are members of this Yearly Meeting be admitted after the 1st of 7th month next, at twenty and a half dollars per quarter, and that the several Monthly Meetings have the privilege of sending one child through the year, or two children six months each, free of expense; and that should any surplus remain, which the Committee may consider it safe to appropriate, that it may be at their disposal in aid of the charitable funds of the Society.

"The Committee feel it to be their duty again to recommend to the attention of Parents and others having the care of Children, and to the Committees of Monthly Meetings, their previous advices on the interesting subject of Education, and particularly the Minutes accompanying their report in 1825 which were printed and distributed by direction of the Yearly Meeting.

"Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Moses Brown,

"Providence, 5m° 2d 1828." "Fourth Congress."

The Meeting then adjourned to the 3d hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third-day afternoon, the 17th. — Met pursuant to adjournment.

Being informed by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, that Asa Smith has given notice to that Meeting of his intention ~~of discontinuing~~ of appealing from its decision, confirming the judgment of New Bedford Monthly Meeting in denying him the right of membership, and an opportunity being given him to be present at the appointment of a Committee to act on said appeal, of which he declined availing himself, the Meeting proceeded

1828. ceeded to name Matthew Turston, Benjamin Trobe, Abijah Chase, Daniel Johnson, Jonathan Rod, Stephen Jones, Rowland Robbins, Walter Allen, David Nichols, Jesse Hoyer, Joshua Hoarder, and Joshua Jenkins, to hear the Appellant and the Committee of the Quarterly Meeting, and report their judgment in the case at a future sitting.

An Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore was read at this sitting.

The Meeting then proceeded to consider the state of Society as presented by the answers to the Queries received from the Quarterly Meetings; which were gone through with. The deficiencies in the attendance of some of our members and the queries which they have brought to our view have been painfully affecting to many exercised minds; but encouragement has been derived from the information they convey to us, of the care of Visiters towards those whose misconduct and deviations has occasioned these exceptions; and we fervently desire that Overseers, Parents, and others, who are concerned for the welfare of Society, and the prosperity of Truth, may be increasingly encouraged to persevere in these labours of love, believing that a blessing will attend them herein.

The Friends now under appointment are continued, to constitute, with such Friends as may be appointed by this Women's Meeting, a Committee for the government and superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence for the year ensuing, and to act therein on behalf of this Meeting, conformably to the direction and authority [illegible] given said Committee.

Adjourned to the 3d hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fourth-Day afternoon, the 18th. — Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, made the following report:

"Newport, 6mo. 18th, 1828.

"The Committee have examined and settled the Treasurer's account, agreeable to appointment, and find a balance in the Treasurer's hands of twenty dollars & 64/100 and propose to raise seven hundred dollars for the year ensuing; and also propose William Almy for Treasurer.

"On behalf of the Committee, Walter Allen,
Joseph Anthony,"

which being considered, is accepted; and in conformity therewith, William Almy is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting, for the year ensuing; and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him their respective and usual proportions of seven hundred dollars, the sum concluded to be raised.

The Committee on the state of Society having taken into consideration the subject of the appointment of a Committee to confer or correspond with Committees of other Yearly

... sitings of Friends, as proposed by the Yearly Meeting of ... then in order more immediately to connect the feeling, and general interest of the Society ... the subject as thus presented, claimed our serious consideration; and it was concluded with great unanimity, to appoint such a Committee on the part of this Yearly Meeting; and the concern having been laid before the Women's Meeting; we have their unity therein. The Committee on the State of Society, are requested to propose at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute the Committee.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, and the Minutes they have given to the concerns of Society that have come before them, is satisfactory to this Meeting; ... The Friends now under appointment, with the exception of Moses Dove, deceased, are continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing; agreeable to the constitution of the Meeting.

A testimony or memorial of Dover Monthly Meeting concerning our late friend Marble Osborne, deceased, with a brief notice of his Wife, also deceased, was read in this Meeting, and being approved, is directed to be placed on record.

Adjourned to the fourth hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth Day afternoon, the 19th. — Friends again met. The following Summary, embracing the substance of the answers to the Queries, was read and approved at this sitting, viz.

All our Meetings for worship and discipline have been duly held, with the exception of one small Meeting, which has several times been omitted, in consequence of sickness and inclemency of weather; those held on the first day of the week appear to have been generally attended by most of our members; while mid-week meetings and those for Discipline are neglected by many. — Mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour; a few instances of sleeping excepted. ... Love and unity, we believe, good degree maintained by most Friends; yet there is some deficiency herein, and in one of the accounts, that to be much wanting, is in some instances. — Detraction is generally guarded against, but not without some exceptions.

Care is taken to end differences. Many Friends endeavour to bring up those under their direction in plainness; and to restrain them from reading pernicious books and from corrupting conversation; and are exemplary herein; yet it appears from some of the accounts, that much declension is apparent in these respects. — The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most families; but a fear is expressed, that there is too much neglect of this important duty. ... Friends are generally careful, and in some parts increasingly so, to avoid the use of spirituous liquors, except for medicine; they are not, however, wholly confined to this purpose, by all accounts, on which account, as well as in respect to some instances of attending places of public resort and amusements inconsistent with our profession, the care of Society has been extended. ... The circumstances of the poor are attended to. In a few instances Children have been placed from among their ...

1828. Friends are generally careful that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline. Some instances of deviation are under notice..... Our testimonies against the payment of priests wages against War, and the defrauding of the Revenue, appear to be generally maintained. One or two instances of failure to support the former of these testimonies, and a few instances of a military nature, are under notice. Friends are, mostly careful to conduct their affairs and settle their accounts, punctual in the payment of their debts, and concerned to live within the bounds of their circumstances; yet not without exceptions..... Our Queries are generally attended to; but there is some deficiency in duly recording births and deaths. Friends, it appears, are generally enabled to deal with offenders in a good degree as queried; but not in some instances, so seasonably as would be best. Judgment is placed according to Discipline.

The Committee on the case of Appeal from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, made the following Report:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"We your Committee, appointed to hear and determine the appeal of Asa Smith from the judgment of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, have met with the parties, fully heard their pleas and allegations, and are united in opinion that the judgment of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed.

Matthew Purinton,	Rowland Rathbun,
Benjamin Freeborn,	Walter Allen,
Daniel Johnson,	Caleb Nichols,
Abijah Chase,	Moses Sleeper,
Noah Reed,	Joshua Jenkins,
Stephen Jones.	Joshua Reader."

Sandwich, 6mo 19. 1828.

which is accepted; and the judgment of the Quarterly Meeting confirmed; and Francis Cope and Edward Wing, are requested to inform the appellant hereof.

Rowland Greene, William Almy, William Jenkins, Thomas Rowland, Stephen Arthur, Moses Sleeper, John Osborne, Benjamin Freeborn, and Graham Shearman, Jun. are appointed, with such Friends as may be added by the Women's Meeting; a Committee on the part of this Yearly Meeting, to confer & correspond with similar Committees that have been, or may be appointed by other Yearly Meetings as proposed by that of Ohio; and make report to this Meeting next year. And the Clerk is directed to give information of the appointment of such a Committee, to the Yearly Meeting of Ohio, and the other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, with which we correspond.

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends, appointed as by minute of last year, to visit Quarterly and other Meetings, made the following Report:

"The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends, appointed to visit the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, &c. Report, That we have given attention to our appointment, and laboured in divers instances, as way has opened, and we trust some useful good has resulted from these endeavours. Notwithstanding, in the view of the Committee, there remains occasion for the Meeting to continue to extend its care.

On behalf of the Committee, Tho.s Rowland.

"Newport, 18.th of 6.mo 1828." Elizabeth Mitchell."

which report being considered, is accepted, — and the Friends now under appointment, are continued, to extend such further labour as may open for; and report to this Meeting next year.

Our beloved Friend Anna Braithwaite, having been acceptably with us in this Meeting, by minute made in the First Mo. 1827, by the Monthly Meeting of Kendal, and the Quarterly Meeting of Westmoreland on the testificates granted her by those Meetings on a former visit to this Country, with a Certificate from the Morning Meeting, of Ministers and Elders, held in London in the Third Mo. 1827, were read at this sitting, to our satisfaction.

Our beloved Friend Isaac Braithwaite being acceptably with us, the minute granted him by Kendal Mo. Meeting, in the Fourth Month, 1827, was also read.

A Declaration of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in Philadelphia, respecting the proceedings of those who have lately separated from the Society, and also shewing the contrast between their Doctrines and those of the Society of Friends; — An Epistle and Testimony from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in New York, addressed to their subordinate Meetings; — and an Epistle from the Yearly Meeting held in Virginia, similarly directed — which accompanied their respective communications to this Meeting received at the present time; are referred to the consideration of the Meeting for Sufferings.

A report from a Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings, appointed to aid in promoting the total Abolition of the Slave Trade and Slavery, read in the Yearly Meeting held in London, in the 5th Mo. 1827, is also referred to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth Day morning, the 20th. — Met according to adjournment.

The following Report from the Committee on Indian concerns,

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"A part of the Committee on Indian concerns again went on to the Penobscot, about the first of last month; had interviews with their late agent, and other principal men in that nation who appear to have taken an interest in their welfare; and commencing with Old Town, visited such of their families on that and their Islands above, where it could be supposed our aid in any way could be the most useful; and one of our number spent several weeks amongst them, to aid them in preparing to get in their Seed.

Owing to the unusual fall of rain last Spring, [Spring of last year.] they were much belated in getting in their Seed; which, together with the unprecedented destruction of their cornfields made by the squirrels, rendered their crops less than in any of the several preceding years. The prospect for the present season appeared promising; and the disposition for farming on the increase. They are still adding to the number of their framed houses and barns; as also to their neat stock.

Newport, 6mo 19th, 1828.

Moses Sleeper,
Noah Read."

Expenses, $50.08.

being read and considered, the attention the Committee have given to the objects of their appointment is satisfactory to this Meet-

1828 and believing that usefulness will result from their further care in promoting those objects, the Friends now under appointment are continued for the ensuing year. And our Treasurer is requested to pay to Noah Reade Treasurer of the Committee, fifty dollars, 68 cents, the sum expended by them.

The Committee on the state of Society, presented an Essay of a communication to our several Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings, which being deliberately read and seriously considered in this and the Women's Meeting, was approved, and the Clerks were directed to sign the same on behalf of the Meeting. It was concluded that six thousand copies be printed: and that each family throughout the Yearly Meeting be furnished with it. William Jenkins, William Almy, Stephen F. Chase, Samuel C. Tobey, and Thomas Rowland were appointed to have it fairly transcribed for the press, with liberty to make any verbal alterations not affecting the sense, and to superintend the printing.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

(4 afternoon. — met by adjournment.)

The following Minutes, introduced by the Committee on the state of society, were read and adopted in concurrence with the Women's Meeting, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

"This Meeting having been introduced into a weighty consideration of the relation in which we stand towards Friends of some of the other Yearly Meetings on this Continent in which differences have lamentably prevailed, till separation has been the result, we have deemed it our indispensible duty to meet the exigencies of the occasion, by manifesting our unity with those Meetings that have continued steadfast in their adherence to the ancient order, discipline and faith of the Society, and our disunity with those who have receded therefrom; and it is therefore our conclusion, that no removal or other Certificates be received from, or transmitted to such Meetings as are known to have receded from the ancient foundation of the Society; — and Friends are cautioned against opening our Meeting Houses to any who have identified themselves with the bodies thus receding; and all our Members are advised not to attend Meetings that may be held or appointed by such. The annexed extracts from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia by adjournments from the 21st to the 28th of the fourth Month last, shew what Meetings within its limits are in unity with that Yearly Meeting; [For which, see printed extracts.] Till some more certain information shall be received of the situation of the various Meetings within the compass of the Yearly Meeting of New York, and other Yearly Meetings, in which division

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode-Island, in the 6th month, 1828

The following Minutes, adopted with the concurrence of the Women's Meeting, were directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings:

THIS Meeting having been introduced into a weighty consideration of the relation in which we stand towards Friends of some of the other Yearly Meetings on this continent, in which difficulties have lamentably prevailed, till separation has been the result; we have deemed it our indispensable duty to meet the exigencies of the occasion, by manifesting our unity with those Meetings which have continued steadfast in their adherence to the ancient order, discipline and faith of the Society, and our disunity with those who have receded therefrom; and it is therefore our conclusion, that no removal or other certificates be received from, or transmitted to, such Meetings as are known to have receded from the ancient foundation of the Society. And Friends are cautioned against opening our Meeting-Houses to any who have identified themselves with the bodies thus receding; and all our Members are advised not to attend meetings that may be held or appointed by such.

The annexed extract from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia, by adjournments from the 21st to the 28th of the 4th month last, shew what Meetings within its limits, are in unity with that Yearly Meeting.

Till some more certain information shall be received of the situation of the various Meetings within the compass of the Yearly Meeting of New-York, and other Yearly Meetings in which division, or a departure from those principles and practices which once united us together as one people, is unhappily manifesting itself, we recommend to all our subordinate Meetings, the exercise of a sound discretion in the premises. And should cases occur, in which any of our Meetings find it difficult to decide, they are requested to apply to the Meeting for Sufferings for its advice; and said Meeting is desired to give its attention to the subject, and render all the assistance herein, from time to time, that it may be qualified to afford.

From the Minutes of said Meeting,

ABRAHAM SHEARMAN, JUN. *Clerk.*

Extract from the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in Philadelphia, by adjournments, from the 21st to the 28th, inclusive, of the 4th month, 1828—accompanying their Epistle of that date.

ON considering the difficulty and embarrasment in which Meetings may be involved, for want of knowing whether certificates which may be produced to them are issued by Meetings in unity with us, several Friends are appointed in each of our Quarterly Meetings as correspondents, one or more of whom are to sign (in addition to the usual mode of signing,) all certificates of removal, and all other certificates or minutes given forth for Friends; and it is requested, in order that certificates may duly reach the Meetings to which they are directed, that they be addressed or sent to one of those Friends.—The names of the correspondents, with their respective places of residence, are subjoined.

PHILADELPHIA QUARTER—Joseph Whitaker, *Muncy.*
John Lee, *Exeter.*
John Paul, Isaac W. Morris, } *Philadelphia.*

ABINGTON QUARTER———Charles Shoemaker, *Abington.*
Jesse Spencer, *Gwynnedd.*
James Bell, *Stroudsburg.*

BUCKS QUARTER———Joseph Satterthwaite, *Falls Township,*
Benjamin Wiggins, *Wrights Town,*
John W. Balderson, *Solebury,* } Bucks Co. Pennsylvania.

CONCORD QUARTER———Joseph Rhoads, *Marple township,*
Nathan Sharpless, *Concord,* } Delaware County, Pennsylvania.
John Forsythe, *West Goshen,* Chester County, Pennsylvania.

CALN QUARTER———Robert Moore, *Sadsbury,*
Thomas Jackson, *Robeson,*
George G. Ashbridge, *Downingtown,* } Chester Co. Pennsylvania.

WESTERN QUARTER———William Bailey, *London Grove,*
Edward B. Temple, *Parkersville Post Office,*
Thomas Lambourn, *New Garden,* } Chester Co. Penn.

BURLINGTON QUARTER——William Allison, *Burlington City,*
William Newbold, *Upper Springfield,*
Samuel Bunting, *Crosswicks, Burlington Co.*
Daniel Parker, *Tuckerton,* } New-Jersey.

HADDONFIELD QUARTER—Barzillai Leeds, *Great Egg Harbour,*
John Gill, *Haddonfield,*
Joseph Matlack, *Moorestown,*
Joshua Stokes, *Upper Evesham,* } New-Jersey.

SALEM QUARTER———Samuel Webster, *Woodbury,*
Caspar Wistar, *Salem,*
George Bacon, *Greenwich,* } New-Jersey.

SHREWSBURY & RAHWAY QUARTER. Benjamin Parker, *Shrewsbury,*
Jacob Parker, *Rahway,*
Nathan Vail, *Plainfield,* } New-Jersey.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, in the 6th month, 1828.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee having been read and considered, is satisfactory to this Meeting, and the Clerk is directed to forward copies thereof to our several Monthly Meetings, for their information.

From the Minutes of the Meeting aforesaid.

ABRAHAM SHEARMAN, JUN. *Clerk.*

TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

THE BOARDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT, That they have given their attention to the concerns of the Institution, during the past year, and feel encouraged to believe that the expectations of Friends, in regard to its usefulness to the children and youth of the Society, will be realized.

The School is continued under the charge of ENOCH and LYDIA BREED, as Superintendents; ISAIAH JONES, GEORGE JONES, MOSES MITCHELL, ABIGAIL PEIRCE, MARY ALMY, and LYDIA B. ALLEN, as Teachers. The average number of Scholars for the year past has been one hundred and twenty-one; and their general conduct and improvement have been satisfactory to the Committee. Meetings for worship have been regularly held, and occasionally attended by some of the Committee. The family has been preserved in a good degree of harmony.

The account of the Treasurer of the School Fund has been received and audited; and the state of the Fund is such, that the Committee think it safe to propose to the Yearly Meeting, that children who are members of this Yearly Meeting be admitted after the 1st of 7th month next, at twelve and a half dollars per quarter, and that the several Monthly Meetings have the privilege of sending one child through the year, or two children six months each, free of expense; and that should any surplus remain, that the Committee may consider it safe to appropriate, that it may be at their disposal in aid of the charitable funds of this Institution.

The Committee feel it to be their duty again to recommend to the attention of Parents and others having the care of children, and to the Committees of Monthly Meetings, their previous advices on the interesting subject of Plainness, and particularly the Minutes accompanying their Report in 1825, which were printed and distributed by direction of the Yearly Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

MOSES BROWN.
ELIZABETH CONGDON.

Providence, 5 mo. 2d, 1828.

Yearly Meeting
Minutes.
1828.

Disunity with Separatists.

or a departure from those principles and practices which we united as a people, is unhappily manifesting itself, we recommend to all our subordinate Meetings, the exercise of a sound discretion in the premises; and should any cases occur, in which any of our Meetings find it difficult to decide, they are requested to apply to the Meeting for Sufferings for its advice; and said Meeting is desired to give its attention to the subject, and render all the assistance from time to time, that it may be qualified to afford."

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Ireland, New York, Philadelphia, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, were read in this and the two previous sittings, and being approved, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such verbal alterations, not affecting their import, as may at the necessary, signed by him on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings.

Caleb Nichols is appointed a Member of the Meeting for Sufferings, in place of Moses Dow, deceased.

The Clerk is directed to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

The following Certificate of the Gospel labours and religious services of our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson, was approved, in concurrence with the Women's Meeting, and directed to be signed by the Clerk, viz.

"To the Monthly Meeting of Hardshaw West, the Quarterly Meeting of Lancashire, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers & Elders held in London.

"Our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson, having attended our Yearly Meeting in 1826, and being again with us at this time, with a Certificate from the Monthly Meeting of Hardshaw West, held in Liverpool, the 4th of 3d Month, endorsed by the Quarterly Meeting of Lancashire, [*held at Manchester.] the 18th of 3d month, together with one from the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, held in London, by adjournments on the 17th, 18th, 19th & 27th of 5th Month, 1824.

We feel engaged to certify on her behalf, that her labours, and religious services, both when assembled in our Yearly Meeting capacity, and in our subordinate Meetings; and also in Friends' families, have been strengthening to the living exercised, encouraging to the weak, and consoling to the afflicted mourners amongst us; in her ministry being sound in doctrine carefully endeavouring to divide the word aright; and her conversation and demeanour becoming the character of a Minister of the Gospel of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We have felt much sympathy with her in her trials and afflictions in this land; and affectionately desire, if consistent with the Divine will, that when her services are fully accomplished, she may be favoured to return in safety to her family and friends, with the reward of peace."

1828 The Clerk is directed to furnish our esteemed Friends from abroad with minutes, agreeably to essays proposed.

Having been mercifully favoured, during the several sittings of this Meeting, measurably to witness the overshadowings of Divine love, whereby the important concerns of Society that have come before us, have been in much unanimity and brotherly love we desire gratefully to acknowledge the condescension of our Heavenly Father, in our comfortable preservation, and under a humbling sense whereof we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island, in the sixth month next.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting,

Graham Sherman, Junr. Clerk.

An Epistle

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, to its Subordinate Meetings and Members. 1828.

From our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, by adjournments from the 15th of the sixth month, to the 20th of the same, inclusive, 1828.

To our Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings and their Members thereto belonging.

Our minds being introduced into exercise at this time, on account of the many and great deviations from sound principles which have appeared and prevailed among some of those, who have heretofore gone under our name; and being sensible of the obligations arising from our high and holy profession, faithfully to bear our testimony to the doctrines of the Gospel, as set forth in the Holy Scriptures, and maintained by our Society from its first, rise down to the present time; we are concerned to address all our members on those interesting and important subjects, as well with a view to their encouragement, herein, as, to evince to them our adherence to the faith once delivered to the saints.

As a religious society we are professedly Christian, disciples and followers of our blessed Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ. Under this view it becomes important to know what is required of us, in order that we may be found living up to this profession. Christianity is the religion taught in the Holy Scriptures. That volume gives us its spirit, teaches its doctrines, abounds with its precepts, resembles its sacred objects upon its faithful adherents, and exhorts to its being embraced in the love of it.

Some understanding of the nature of this spirit, these doctrines, precepts and exhortations, is certainly indispensable to all of us, before we can be qualified to support the profession we make. And in considering the adaptation of this holy religion to man's state, it becomes important to inquire what that state is. On this subject the Bible teaches that man naturally, or as he is the son of Adam, is fallen, degenerate and dead, and incapable, as in this state, of knowing any thing aright of or doing, as of himself, any good thing. And as this is affirmed of man as he is the son of Adam, so it must necessarily include all mankind, the whole posterity of Adam. As he is in this state therefore, his thoughts & conceptions concerning God and things spiritual, are dark and unprofitable &c.

to himself, and others. This doctrine is largely inculcated in the sacred volume. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it." Jer. 17. 9. The apostle, in his epistle to the Romans, thus describes a fallen race. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3. 23. "There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre: with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: and the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes." Rom. 3. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. And the same Apostle further says: "For I know that in me (that is in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing." Rom. 7. 18. How true the reasonings, if man be delivered from this state of degradation & misery for the interposition of some more potent arm than his own, some Almighty Helper, some Deliverer and Redeemer who is able to save. Of this necessity the apostle was strikingly sensible when he exclaimed, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Rom. 7. 24.

From this view of the subject we learn to acknowledge the inestimable value of the Christian plan. The prophecies of the Scriptures are replete with promises of an Almighty Deliverer from the consequences of the fall, and of sin and transgression. "And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord." Isa. 59. 20. — "Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him." Isa. 62. 11. — "Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people." Isa. 55. 4. "Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men; So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see, and that which they had not heard shall they consider." Isa. 52. 13, 14, 15. "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Isa. 7. 14.

"For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground; he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted; yet

1828 yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? For he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken." Isa. 53. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

(In the fulness of time, this Almighty Deliverer came. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3. 16.

St. John the Beloved describes, in a striking manner, the advent of the Messiah, in the first chapter of his Gospel. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men." John i, 1, 2, 3, 4. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." John i, 14.

He was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, lived and suffered in the world; went about doing good, enforced by his precepts & doctrines, the future rewards of the righteous, and the punishments of the wicked, and by miracles, and healing all manner of diseases & sickness among the people, he showed forth his power, his goodness, and his wonderful works among the children of men; and finally made an offering of himself on the Cross, as a propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God." I Peter, 3, 18. —— "For yet when we were without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." Rom. 5. 6. "But God commendeth his love towards us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5. 8.

Of the efficacy of this one great offering, the Scriptures bear the most ample testimony. The holy Apostle to the Gentiles dwells upon this interesting theme, and enforces it in language that cannot be misunderstood. "Much more then," saith he, "being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement." Rom. 5. 9, 10, 11.

Of the universality of the blessed effects of this gracious provision, the same apostle also bears ample testimony. ——— "Therefore, as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life." Rom. 5. 18. ———

"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God, which is by faith of Jesus Christ, unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; being justi-

freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time, his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." Rom. iii. 24. 25. 25. 26. 24. 25. 26.

And the Scriptures further testify, that the blessed Saviour rose again from the dead. He "who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification:" Rom. 4. 25 and is set at the right hand of God in heavenly places;" far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come." Eph. 1. 21 Who "is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7. 25. "And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." 1 John, ii. 1. "Him hath God exalted with his right hand, to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins." Acts v. 31.

The Scriptures also declare that it is through the power of God in our hearts by his spirit, according to his own promise before he ascended to the glory which he had with the Father, before the world was. "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." John 14. 18. "It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you: but if I depart, I will send him unto you." John 16. 7. "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." John 16. 13. 14. And this free gift of the Holy Spirit is the purchase of that most satisfactory sacrifice of our blessed Lord, wherein he tasted death for every man. "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Cor. 4. 6.

Of the Divine character of this blessed Saviour, we have also the explicit testimony of the Scriptures, that he was true God and true man. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isa. 9. 6. "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2. 10. 11. He testifies of himself, that he was with the Father before the world was. —"And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was." John 17. 5. And he also declares, "I and my Father are one." John 10. 30.....

God we desire unworthily to acknowledge to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as the one God over all, blessed for ever.

From these premises, with what boldness and force doth the Apostle exhort us, to lay hold on the hope thus set before us. "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who, for the joy

joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Heb. 12. 1, 2.

Thus as an encouragement to hold fast this most precious faith, how many and gracious are the promises contained in the scriptures, to the faithful dedicated soul. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." — Acts 16. 31. "He that endureth to the end shall be saved." Matt. 10. 22.

And as we thus believe in what our blessed Saviour has done for us without us, and submit to the operations of his Spirit in our hearts, we shall be subject to his righteous government, and be conformed to his holy will. Then indeed is he made unto us, "Wisdom and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption." 1 Cor. 1. 30. Then can we, with humble confidence, rely on his gracious promises, and look unto him as our hope, our joy, and our exceeding great reward. Thus in unspeakable mercy is provision made for our restoration, & life and immortality are brot to light.

These things we steadfastly believe. We believe them, because they are testified of in the Holy Scriptures, and "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3. 16, 17.

We believe them, because they contain evidence in themselves, that they are the truth of God, from their adaptation to our fallen state; from the glorious hopes they are calculated to excite; hopes full of immortality.

We believe them, because their fruits are the fruits of righteousness, the fruits of the Spirit; and the humble believers in these sacred truths, with self abasedness and fear, have to acknowledge that it is God who worketh in them, both to will and to do of his own good pleasure.

We believe them, because they are witnessed unto us by the evidence of the Spirit of Truth in our hearts. "Hereby know ye the Spirit of God, every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh, is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh, is not of God." 1 John 4. 2, 3.

We believe them, because the blessed precepts and instructions by which they are accompanied, and with which they abound, as they eminently tend to bind the mind home to God, evidence that they came from God.

And these truths have always been assuredly believed & professed by us as a people, from our first rise, as the following extracts from our early Writers will abundantly testify.

Robert Barclay in his Apology says: "The former part of this proposition, though it needs no apology for itself, yet it is a good apology for us, and it will help to sweep away that, among many other calumnies, wherewith we are often traduced, as if we were infidels and deniers of the scriptures; for in that which we affirm of them, it doth appear at what high rate we value them, accounting them, without all deceit or equivocation, the most excellent writings in the world; to which not one no other writings are to be preferred, but even in divers respects not comparable thereto. For as we freely acknowledge that their authority doth not depend upon the approbation or canons of any church or assembly; so neither can we subject them to the fallen, corrupt, and defiled reason of man." — Barclay's Apology. page 68.

"All Adam's posterity, or mankind, both Jews & Gentiles, as to the first Adam; or as they man is fallen, degenerated, and dead; deprived of the sensation or feeling of this inward testimony or seed of God; and is subject unto the Jews nature, and seed of the serpent; which he soweth in men's hearts, while they abide in this natural and corrupted estate; from whence it comes, that not only their words and deeds, but all their imaginations, are vain, polluted in the sight of God, as proceeding from this depraved and wicked seed. Man therefore, as he in this state,

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can know nothing aright, yea, his thoughts and conceptions, concerning God in things spiritual until he be disjoined from this evil seed, and united to the Divine Light, or unprofitable [illegible] to himself & others." Barclay's Apol. p. 49.

"If then we may affirm, that Adam did not stand in his nature [illegible] belonging thereunto any will or light capable to give him knowledge in spiritual things, then neither can his posterity: for whatever evil good any man doth, it proceedeth not from his nature, as he is man, or the son of Adam; but from the seed of God in him, as a new visitation of life, in order to bring him out of this natural condition: so that, although it be in him, yet is it not of him; and this the Lord himself witnesseth, Gen. 6.5. where it is said — He saw that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually: which words as they are very positive, so they are very comprehensive. Observe the emphasis of them: first, there is every imagination of the thoughts of his heart: so that this admits of no exception of any imagination of the thoughts of his heart? — Secondly, is only evil continually; it is neither in some part evil continually, nor yet only evil at some time; but doth only evil, and always and continually evil; which certainly excludes any good, as a proper effect of man's heart naturally: for that which is only evil, & that always, cannot of its nature [illegible] any good thing." He confirmed this again a little after, chap. 8. 21. "The imagination of man's heart is evil [illegible] his youth: then marries the natural and teaches it is unto him." Barclay's Apology, page 65.

"We do not hereby intend any ways to lessen or derogate from the atonement and sacrifice of Jesus Christ; but on the contrary do magnify and exalt it. For as we believe all those things to have been actions transacted which are recorded in the Holy Scriptures concerning the birth, life, miracles, sufferings, resurrection and ascension of Christ; so we do also believe that it is the duty of every one to believe it to whom it pleases God to reveal the same, and to bring to them the knowledge of it; yea, we believe it were damnable unbelief not to believe it when so revealed: but to resist that holy call, which as inward would lead and incline every one to believe it as it is offered unto them, though it reveals it not in every one the outward & explicit knowledge of it, nevertheless it always assenteth to it, ubi declaratur, where it is declared. Nevertheless as we firmly believe it was necessary that Christ should come, that by his death and sufferings he might offer up himself a sacrifice to God for our sins, who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree; so we believe that the remission of sins which any partake of, is only in and by virtue of that most satisfactory sacrifice, and no otherwise. For it is by the obedience of that one that the free gift is come upon all to justification." — Barclay's Apology, page 141.

From William Penn's "Serious Apology" we extract the following, viz: "To conclude this brief account I am constrained, for the sake of the simple hearted, to publish to the world, our faith in God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. We do believe in One only Holy God Almighty, who is an eternal Spirit, the Creator of all things. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, his only Son, and express image of his Substance, who took upon him flesh, and was in the world; and in life, doctrine, miracles, death, resurrection, ascension, and mediation, perfectly did, and does continue to do the will of God; to whose holy life, power, mediation & blood, we only ascribe our sanctification, justification, redemption & [illegible] of salvation. And we believe in One Holy Spirit, that proceeds and breathes from the Father & the Son, as the life and virtue of both the Father and the Son, a measure of which is given to all to profit with; and he that has one has all; for the Three are One, who is the All-sufficient One, yea the First and the Last, God over all, blessed forever. Amen." Vol. 2, pages 66, 67. — 1671.

Jno

1828.

In his "Key," &c. he thus speaks, viz: "They believe in the Holy Three or Trinity of Father Word and Spirit according to Scripture, and that these Three are truly and properly One:— of one nature as well as will.— Thus they are very loath of putting Scripture terms and phrases for explanations; such as distinct and separate persons and subsistences, &c. are; from whence people are apt to entertain gross ideas & notions of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." Works, vol. 2, page 783.— 1662. And in another "Treatise, thou knowest that they believe the Light to be Divine, and the Scriptures to be of divine authority: that they own the existence Trinity, or Holy Three, of Father, Word & Spirit to be truly and properly One: that Christ is God, and that Christ is man: that he came in the flesh, died, rose again, ascended, and sits on God's right hand, the only sacrifice and mediator, for man's happiness."— Works, vol. 2, pages 780, 90.— 1692.

In George Fox's "Great Mystery," replying to one who asserted "that every man in the world should not have his sins pardoned," he says. "Christ gave himself, his body for the life of the world; he was the offering for the sins of the whole world, and paid the debt, and made satisfaction, and doth enlighten every man that comes into the world, that all through him might believe; and he that doth not believe in the offering is condemned already."— page 63.— 1659.

In an Essay entitled the "Royal Law of God revived," &c. he says— "And further saith the Apostle in 1 John ii, 1, 2.— 'We have an advocate with the Father Jesus Christ the righteous, and he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.' Now mark, this is a large word for all people to take notice of that Jesus Christ is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world. Therefore every one of you in your own particulars, know this, that Christ Jesus who is crowned with glory and honour, did taste death for every man; mark, for every man; and whosoever denies this doctrine is an antichrist, and preaches another, is a false preacher and seducer, and brings people to trouble and loss, from that which is their right and their due, in which is their satisfaction: so these are universal things to all mankind, whereby all mankind might come out of the earthly old Adam, in the fall and transgression, to him that hath died for them all, and purchased them all, and tasted death for all, and enlightened them all, and gave his grace to them all; and he willeth that all might be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth of Christ, who doth this:

And whoever teacheth another doctrine, brings people into strife & confusion, to destroy one another, where they have not natural affections, and will do that to another which they would not have others do unto them; who break the bonds thereby of civil commerce amongst mankind; and the religions, ways and worships of all such, are no worships, religions nor ways to God, but set up by a dark, envious spirit, by which they destroy one another, which are God's creatures, about them; all which come from him, who is out of the truth, whom Christ came to destroy."— page 19.— 1671.

From a work entitled "Antichrist is [illegible]," by James Whitehead. In [illegible] christian testimony is related, viz. "We sincerely profess and declare in the sight of God and men, that we do faithfully believe and profess the divinity and humanity of manhood of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the eternal word of God: and that in the fullness of time he took flesh, was miraculously conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin [illegible] and suffered for us in the days of the cruel, as an universal offering Sacrifice, both in soul and body and shed thereon, for the sins

of—

of the whole world; and was buried and rose again the third day, and visibly ascended, was seen in his ascending, and passed into heaven and glory; and that he ascended far above all heavens, that he might fill all things: and that as his suffering and sacrifice is both eternal redemption for us, which through faith in his name and power, true repentance and conversion we lovingly receive and effectually partake of.

"That we are not pardoned, justified, redeemed, or saved by our own righteousness, works, merits or deservings; but by the righteousness, merit and work of this our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ being both imparted and imputed to us, as He is of God made unto us, wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. Our reconciliation, redemption, burden, sanctification and justification cannot be had nor is it any farther, than and as we receive and partake of the fellowship of Christ's sufferings and power of his resurrection. Upon which grace we ought to persevere in newness of life and faithful obedience unto him, unto the end, that we may be heirs of the eternal salvation, which Christ is the author of." Page 30 1692.

Of the consequences of giving way to a spirit of doubt and disbelief, the present day is sorrowfully and painfully fruitful.

In our highly favoured & highly professing society, this spirit has made deep inroads, producing its own corrupt fruits. In many parts of our country, so desolating have been its effects, that he who walketh in the counsel of discernment with weight & gravity, among us. Doctrines at variance with the faith of the Gospel have been boldly promulgated, and confident denials of the essentials of the Christian religion have been openly avowed.

This unsoundness in principle, although so painful and distressing is by no means new. In various ages of the Church, the same spirit hath been manifested. Within our own borders, and at no distant period, similar dejections have prevailed. Under a high profession of great spiritual attainments, the seeds of infidelity were sown among us, and with the specious pretext of great religious experience the necessity for watchfulness and humble dependence upon the Lord for preservation, was denied by some, who even professed themselves to have attained a state beyond all fear, concern, or possibility of falling; having entered into the heaven of rest in this life, and boldly asserted, that we could know nothing of any other heaven, neither if any other life beyond the present, and that in this life were to be experienced all the dispensations that our blessed Lord, from manger even to the ascending up on high & setting down on the right hand of God.

As a necessary consequence of this delusion, the Holy Scriptures came to be lightly esteemed, and spoken of as a dead letter, an object of idolatrous worship, and as containing nothing instructive to such an exalted state. The Divine character and offices of our blessed Saviour were in like manner, treated with irreverence, his sufferings represented to have been for his own sake, and of no significance as applied to us.

These antichristian sentiments, wherever they naturally fruit; for those who had imbibed them, being puffed up in their own conceit, were unapproachable by the tender cares of friends, and many strife and confusion was the consequence; and having no fellowship with the Society, so they was one with another; and when the nourishing and the storm which their carnal spirits had raised were spent by their own violence, they sadly were leaving, in many instances, the traces of their former standing.

It is in the natural, as in the moral and religious world, like causes must, and ever will produce similar effects. Whenever doubts are cherished with respect to the fundamental truths of the Gospel, the mind is rendered incapable of discernment in religious things, and the door is open for the admission of all that is evil.

It is the afflicting information that in several of our meetings, Works, Tokens, this Spirit of Antichrist is busily at work, to the perversion of truth and holiness; and declarations and testimonies against these sorrowful deviations in principle and practice, have been issued by them. Our minds have been introduced into deep sympathy with our brethren, upon whom much exercise and suffering devolve on this account; and we desire for them, and for ourselves the blessing of preservation, that we may keep our ranks in righteousness, and be strengthened to contend, with humility and holy magnanimity, for the faith once delivered to the saints.

We are concerned also faithfully to bear our testimony against this spirit in all its specious appearances, whether under the guise of greater spirituality, or under the more open profession of libertinism & unbelief; and in the face of the Gospel we are constrained to warn all our members against its desolating effects. Put far away, we beseech you, the insinuating suggestions of the adversary of your souls happiness, which would lead your minds to doubt, for a moment, the truth of the Gospel; whether these suggestions assail you as direct temptations from your minds, or come through the instrumentality of others. Flee to the ark of rest and place of safety; put your confidence in the gracious Redeemer, trust in him, believe on his name, & submit yourselves to his holy guidance; so shall your faith in him be renewed day by day: for they that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength.

We would inquire of such, if any there be, whose minds are in any measure caught in this snare; Have you considered, dear friends, the awful consequences of defection in faith upon yourselves? Have you considered that if, you reject the chief corner stone, the building of your hopes will not stand? that if you undermine the foundation, the superstructure must fall?

When the hour approaches, when you must bid adieu to all things visible, when the excitements of enthusiasm, the pride of opinion, the desire of esteem will have lost all their power to console, where will the anchor of your souls be, who have refused the Christian's hope?

Have you considered the effects of your doubts and objections upon those who behold you? Has there ever been presented to your view a mourner in Zion, who, convicted of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, goes sorrowing on his way, seeking a Believer, and crying out in the anguish of his soul, a Saviour or I die, a Redeemer or I perish forever? To such an one will you say, the sacrifice of Christ is of no avail to thee, his death and sufferings have opened no way for thy escape? Suggest not, we beseech you, these sentiments of infidelity; present not this poisoned chalice to his lips; attempt not to cut off his only hope, and drive him to despair; but rather flee yourselves unto Christ, acknowledge him in all his ways, that he may yet lift you up; for in him is plenteous redemption and abundant mercy, to the penitent sons and daughters of men.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clerk.
Ruth Rodman, Clerk.

Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for Ireland, held at Dublin, from the 15th to the 20th inclusive, of the Sixth month, 1828.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London.

Dear Friends,

Being again assembled in our collective capacity, you have been brought afresh to our remembrance, and your acceptable printed and corresponding Epistle of 5th month last year, has been read to our satisfaction; and under the influence of Gospel love, we cordially salute you, greatly desiring that this mutual manifestation of brotherly love, may be a means of encouragement to each, to further dedication and perseverance in the Christian path.

This our annual assembly has been large, and we have enjoyed some refreshing seasons, in the acknowledgment of Israel's Shepherd, who is favouring us with his presence in the course of our deliberations; wherein we have been confirmed in the belief, that he is still mindful of his flock, and that he will continue to strengthen and support those who in deep humility, put their trust in him.

We have much desired that all, both amongst us and elsewhere, may be preserved from a dangerous dependence on their own sufficiency, or from giving the mind undue liberty in speculative notions and systems of faith. For it is the meek he will guide in judgment, and the meek will he teach his way.

In looking into the state of Society, divers deficiencies in the faithful maintenance of our religious testimonies, have been brought to our view, yet we are encouraged to believe that there is a living concern to labour, as ability may be afforded, for their removal, and for strengthening the things that yet remain.

It has been comforting to witness at this time the attendance of a large number of our young Friends, the deportment of many of whom evinces, that they are in measure concerned to yield in submission to the forming hand of the Divine Master, and we fervently desire, that such whether here or with you, may so abide in humility and watchfulness, as that they may become sanctified instruments in the place of those who may be called from works to rewards, and be found firm supporters in their day, of the principles and faith of our early predecessors, having the mind settled in an unshaken belief in the saving truths of the religion of Jesus Christ, and in a humble dependence on the guidance of his Holy Spirit.

We have been favoured at this time with the acceptable company of Elizabeth Robson and Jane and Anna Braithwaite from your nation; and of several Friends from other Yearly Meetings.

With feelings of brotherly love, we remain,

Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

1825

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland.

Dear Friends,

We have read, with much interest and feeling, your very acceptable Epistle of last year, and hope to be able duly to appreciate the great advantages of corresponding in this way; believing that when it is conducted under the influence of that Spirit which leadeth into all Truth, and without the aid of which we cannot hope to be profitable to ourselves or others, it will be the means of encouraging us to press forward in the cause of Holiness, and we shall rejoice to find that all who are humbly concerned to follow the guidance of this Christ known counsel from each other, are of the same true faith, which worketh by love to the purifying of the heart.

We, with you, have cause to lament many deviations from our ancient testimonies; but we humbly hope, that there is in many an increasing desire to centre down to that teaching which will preserve the upright in the strait and narrow path, restore backsliders to a sense of their danger and their duty, and cause those who have been hitherto unconcerned, to exclaim, a Saviour or I die, a Redeemer or I perish.

We have at this time been favoured with the company and Gospel labours of several English Friends, which indeed is an encouraging evidence that the great Shepherd of Israel is still mindful of us.

We are thankful that we are preserved, in a good degree, from that disturbing spirit of infidelity, which has made unprincipled inroads in some of our neighbouring Yearly Meetings, and which has been the cause of great exercise and suffering to the true followers of the meek and lowly Jesus; but such can rejoice that they are counted worthy to suffer in the cause of him who gave his life for us.

Many subjects of importance have come before this Meeting, which have been acted upon in much love & unanimity, and we trust with an eye single to the cause of Truth.

The injured Africans still engage a portion of our attention, but there is great cause to fear that a large portion of our members are too unmindful of them. We earnestly desire that their cause may more and more interest the feelings of our Society in all parts, and that all who cannot act in their behalf, from a want of the knowledge of their suffering and degraded situation, may be aroused to an investigation of it. And it is our desire in this as in all other concerns, that we may by watchfulness and prayer, apply to the fountain of unerring wisdom for ability, to perform our duty; and for an increase of our strength and faith that we may be established on the sure foundation, Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages, by whose Spirit we shall be enabled to resist temptation and overcome the world; and be prepared when time to us is no more, to receive the answer of "Well done, good and faithful servants, enter ye into the joy of your Lord."

With the salutation of love, we are, your Friends & Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Sherman, Jun.r Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London

Dear Friends.

Your Epistle of the fourth month last, was received and read to our satisfaction; and believing that a correspondence of this nature tends to strengthen the bonds of religious fellowship, we are concerned again to address you.

In this our annual assembly, we have been favoured to transact the important concerns of Society that have come before us, in much harmony and brotherly love being made sensibly sensible, that the Great Shepherd of Israel continues to watch over, and bedew his flock. — We have had cause to rejoice, that a spirit of meekness and humility has, in a good degree, pervaded the minds of Friends, in the several sittings of this Meeting; and that we have been introduced into a sense of our dependence upon him, whose arm is extended to support all who with reverence call upon his name.

Although we have to lament deficiency among many of our members with regard to the support of our Christian testimonies, yet we are renewedly thankful that there are those among us who are endeavouring to maintain them in their primitive purity. May the hands of such be strengthened to persevere in the important work to which they have been called.

We sympathize with you on account of the various trials you have had to pass through, and that still attend you. And we desire that our brethren every where may vigilantly guard against that spirit of infidelity which has introduced itself into our Society, and which strikes at the very root of our holy religion. It is sorrowful to reflect that so many who have professed our name, have been blinded by the false doctrines promulgated by those who have forsaken the Christian principles which bound our predecessors together as one body. But we ardently desire, that the day may soon arrive, when the pure light of Christianity may burn upon the hearts of those who have wandered as into a vale of darkness, and dispense the cloud that covers their deluded minds. And may He, from whom strength alone is to be derived, enable us firmly to maintain the testimonies and doctrines of the true Church.

We have had at this time the company of many of our youth, whose solid deportment has been encouraging to us.

Commending you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build us up, and to give us an inheritance among all them which are sanctified, we remain with affectionate regard,

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Sharman, Jun. Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London.

Dear Friends,

We have again been favoured to meet together for the transaction of the important concerns of Society; and have felt a renewed assurance that our endeavours have been spurred to Him who is indeed a present help in the needful time: and as our minds have been led to advert to the favours vouchsafed on similar occasions, in years that are passed, we feel our hearts to glow with gratitude and acknowledgment from the bountiful hand of Him who is the author of mercies, both ancient and new.

1828. On surveying the agitated state of society, and the desolation that presents on the right hand and the left, our hearts are pained in the contemplation; yet we are comforted in the belief, that there are very many who are retiring as to the tents of safety, and turning more and more in their strong holds, even to Jesus Christ the everlasting Rock of Ages, as the only ground of their trust and dependence: and as this becomes our concern, our minds will be preserved from the unfruitful fields of speculation, and directed towards Jerusalem, the quiet habitation, which we are assured shall not be moved, nor affected by the fluctuations of time.

Our minds have at this time been introduced into feelings of near sympathy with you in your long existing trials, and more recent sufferings; and we have been ready to say that your sorrows have been ours; and the injunction to bear one another's burthens, has been renewedly revealed as an important part of our Christian duty.

We feel desirous that it may be our engagement to cultivate that disposition of mind which would lead us to seek and save that which is lost; and as the fruits of the true Spirit become apparent in our various movements, to those who have been led away with the delusions of the present time, they may be induced to examine their standings, see their danger, and return as doves to the ark, with the acknowledgment that they have not found rest for the sole of their foot. And, notwithstanding the various departures that are apparent, we indulge a hope, that many who it is to be feared have held our profession in a traditional way, may be led to recur to first principles, and be more fully established on the only true foundation, than has hitherto been their experience.

We have been comforted on the perusal of your acceptable Epistle, together with those which we have received from the Yearly Meetings of London, Ireland, Philadelphia, Virginia, Ohio, North Carolina, and Indiana; by which an increasing care appears prevalent for the promotion of the cause of Truth and righteousness.

We have at this time, been particularly mindful of the youth of the present day, surrounded as they are with temptations of various kinds; earnestly desiring that they may look well to their movements, and remember that, as it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps aright, how needful it is to seek for, and avail themselves of this gracious promise. "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not:" ever bearing in mind the expression of Christ himself, "whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father who is in heaven."

We have been favoured at this time, with the company of several brethren and sisters from other Yearly Meetings, whose Gospel labours have been truly edifying and strengthening to us.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

1828

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Being again met in this our annual assembly, we feel our minds drawn in the love and fellowship of the Gospel which we have cause thankfully to acknowledge has been witnessed amongst us affectionately to salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your very acceptable epistle of 5th month last.

In turning our attention towards our distant brethren through the medium of this our annual interchange of sympathetic regard, we have felt our minds drawn towards with a sense of the goodness and tenderness of our heavenly Father in giving a measure of that Divine Grace which unites the souls of those of the same precious faith however remotely situated, giving them to feel that it is indeed pleasant for brethren to dwell together in unity: And although in our land it is a day of trial, a day of mourning, and of grieving with exercise to the dedicated followers of the Lamb, to those who are engaged faithfully to stand as watchmen upon the walls, yet as we know by retiring to the blessed source of strength & wisdom we shall experience him to be as a munition of rocks, a sure hiding place to which the righteous flee, and are safe in every time of trial.

A deep concern has attended our minds that we may all duly feel the great importance of maintaining with faithfulness, and of transmitting unimpaired to succeeding generations, the precious testimonies which our worthy predecessors in the Truth, through deep suffering and persecution so nobly supported, and of walking consistently with our holy profession, that our light so shine before men that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in heaven.

It had afforded us much satisfaction to find that the cause of the oppressed African still claims your tender solicitude. And may the tears of their oppressors be effectual by the powerful operation of the pure principles & precepts of the Gospel thus more fully to God to get low to man and oppression cease. From our remote situation from them means of information and observation we can but little more than evince our sympathetic commiseration for their afflicted state, and offer you a word of encouragement to persevere in your labours for the amelioration of their condition.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of a number of our beloved Friends from Europe and from our neighbouring Yearly Meetings. And have been favoured through Divine aid to transact the weighty concerns of Society in much unanimity and brotherly love — Under a grateful sense of which we conclude — and remain,

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Asst. Clerk.

— 4 —

1828.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Having again convened in this our annual Meeting, we are induced to address you in the love of the Gospel, being made sensible that our Divine Master has been graciously pleased to be with us during the different sittings. We acknowledge with humble gratitude it is through his influence we have been favoured to transact the concerns of Society in love and harmony.

In examining the state of Society, we find there are deficiencies in the support of some of our Testimonies — We observe however with satisfaction that a care rests on the minds of many Friends to labour for the promotion of greater faithfulness — That the efforts of such may be crowned with success, is our fervent desire.

We feel an ardent solicitude that our religious Society may be preserved on the ancient and immutable foundation, Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages: that we may be willing to acknowledge him in all his ways, and have a firm belief in the efficacy of his atonement and intercession for us; which prepares us for the guidance of his Holy Spirit.

We have had the acceptable company of several Friends from England; and some from neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

Your acceptable Epistle of 11th month last has been received and read. — We notice with interest, the attention you continue to devote to the injured African race. — Although we are placed at a distance from the scene of their sufferings, yet we often feel a sympathy for them in their degraded situation.

The subject of a general conference of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, has received our attentive consideration, and resulted in the appointment of a Committee of Men & Women Friends to confer or correspond with those appointed by other Yearly Meetings for a similar purpose.

With love, we remain, your Friends & Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ohio —

Dear Friends.

Being again met in this our annual assembly, we have received your acceptable epistle of the 9th month last, which has been read to our satisfaction.

Our Meeting has been introduced at this time into deep exercise for the maintenance of the doctrines of Christianity, as they were held by our forefathers in religious profession. These doctrines stand opposed to a spirit of libertinism and unbelief, which has made, and is making such mournful devastation in different Yearly Meetings on our continent. We have greatly desired for ourselves, and Friends generally, the blessing of preservation; that we may be favoured to discover this "pestilence that walketh in darkness" as well as "the destruction that wasteth at noon day." We are fully sensible that there is no compromise to be made with principle; but that wherever we discover that any of our members are unsound, in Christian faith, after having unavailingly laboured for their restoration, we are bound to declare our disunity with them, however deeply we may deplore the existence of this necessity.

We have often experienced in times of trial, the expression of
tender feeling of our Elder Friends to be a strengthening to us,
and while we feel the need of the sympathy of your spirits for our-
selves, we are disposed to reciprocate the feeling, and to offer you the
language of encouragement to hold fast the faith without wavering,
although we may be exposed to many difficulties and may have
to pass through deep trials. A want of a true sense of the
excellency of the Doctrines of Christianity as held by our Society,
has undoubtedly been one cause of the wide extension of incredulity
and unbelief among those in connexion with us, and we are very
desirous that the rising generation may become more deeply im-
pressed with the importance of these divine truths; firmly believing
that the testimonies which grow out of those principles would be
better supported, were the source from which they proceed more fully
known. Our ability to defend ours must be in proportion
to our knowledge of the truth, and hence by becoming acquainted
with the Doctrines of Christ, we are guarded against those who
are seeking to ensnare. A frequent and reverent perusal
of the Holy Scriptures, with desires to be instructed therein, we
believe been too much neglected by Friends, and we desire
for our members greater attention to this subject.

We have had cause during the sittings of this Meeting, grate-
fully to acknowledge the merciful presence of the Great Head
of the Church, so that we have been enabled to conduct the
weighty concerns that have come before us in much unanimity
and brotherly love. We have been favoured at this time
with the acceptable company of Elizabeth Robson and Isaac
and Anna Braithwaite, from Europe, of Jonathan Taylor
and companion from your Yearly Meeting, and of divers Friends
from other Yearly Meetings.

The Report from our Boarding School Committee exhibits that
Institution in a prosperous condition; the average number of scholars
having been greater during the last year than at any preceding time.

With the salutation of love, we are your friends & brethren

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk

P.S. This Meeting has appointed a Committee to confer
& correspond with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, agreeably
to the proposition which originated last year, with your Meeting.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Indiana.

Dear Friends,

We are again permitted to meet in our annual
assembly, with renewed feelings of gratitude to the Holy Head of
the Church, that he still graciously calls us to be a people; and we have
at this time ardently desired, that we may be mercifully pre-
served on that foundation which standeth sure. But in or-
der that this may be our experience, we have been made sensible
of the necessity that there is for us to recur to the situation of
man in his fallen estate, that the great need we have of reconci-
ation to our heavenly Father, may more and more prevade our
minds.

As

1828

As we are thus made alive to our true situation, our hearts will
rise with love and adoration to the Lord for his unspeakable goodness
and mercy in the gift of his Son. Jesus Christ, who left the bosom
of the Father, took upon himself humanity, drank a more pure and deep
draught of the ignominious death of the cross, in our stead for the unjust, that
he might bring us to God." As our minds are thus solemnly
impressed, our faith in Christ will become unwavering; in his outward
manifestation in his Divine character and offices, as well as in the
inward manifestation of his Spirit operating in the heart; and we shall
be enabled to magnify and praise his Holy name, for his long suffer-
ing and unmerited kindness to his fallen dependant children. ---
Being established in this most holy faith, both in the appearance
of Christ in the flesh, and the gift of the Holy Spirit, through
obedience thereunto we shall be mercifully favoured to know and to
do the Divine will. It is on this foundation the true Church
is built, and although it may be assailed by storms & floods, yet
will it stand, having the unfailing promise of Christ, "on this
Rock will I build my Church."

But, dear Friends, the injunction, "Watch and pray lest
we enter into temptation," remains to be of great importance; the
day in which we live, and the circumstances by which we are
surrounded call for the daily observance of this Divine caution:
that we may be preserved from the desolating effects of a spirit of
unbelief in the fundamental doctrines of the Christian religion.

We have craved for ourselves and our distant brethren, that
we be kept in the one true and living Faith; believing that the want
thereof, has been the cause of the declension that has appeared in our
Society, in many of our important and distinguishing testimonies.
And were parents sufficiently concerned to imbue the minds of their
tender offspring, with the great and blessed truths of the religion
we profess, they would be more easily brought into a feeling sense of
the necessity of supporting those peculiarities of the Society, which
cost our pious forefathers so much suffering to establish; --- they
would not then be accounted as merely formal, but would be seen
in the light of truth as emanating from it. We believe it is
the important duty of parents to labour to convince the minds of
their children, in early life, of the great Truths of the Gospel; which
the frequent reading of the Holy Scriptures, when quietly conveyed in
our families, would have a tendency; and a blessing attend such pious
devotions.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved
friends Elizabeth Robson, and Susanna Braithwaite, from
England, Jonathan Taylor, of Ohio, Hannah Hartshorne, of New-
Jersey, and several other friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

It is with satisfaction we inform you, that our Boarding
School continues to give promise of usefulness to the youth of Society.

We have received your very acceptable Epistle of the last
year.

With the salutation of love, we are,

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

Hannah Thorman, Jun. Clerk.

1829.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, beginning with Public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First Day the 11th of the Sixth Month, 1829; and on Second Day morning, the 15th, at Newport, for Discipline:

Accounts being received from all our Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting; as For Rhode Island — Daniel Howland, Jenkins Mott, Nicholas Congdon, Abel C. Thomas, William Jenkins, Matthew Mosher, Edmund Chase. — Salem, John Page, Abner Chase, Esek Newhall, Thomas Davis, Jonathan Nichols. — Sandwich, Prince Gifford, Sam[l] Daniel Otis, Samuel Macomber, Hezekiah Tabor, Job Otis, Joseph Crisp. — Falmouth, William Jones, Stephen Jones, Samuel F. Hussey, William Peirston, Tho[s] Jones, Smith Field, Jonathan M. Thom, Daniel Nash, Seleg Adkins, Edward Fowler, James C. Fry — Nantucket, Barnabas Tabor, Robert Windsor, Moses Pinner, Jeremiah Hacker, Daniel Robinson. — Dover, Benjamin Fry, Joshua Maud, John D. Lang, John Brown. ——— Who are all present.

All those at this time, the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Thomas Shillitoe and Mary and Ann Jones, from Great Britain; satisfactory testimonies of the unity of their Friends at home with their ministry and pursuit religious engagements in this country, having been read in this Meeting when they were acceptably with us in 1827; the reading of them at this time is dispensed with.

Our Friend Stephen Brown being acceptably with us as companion to our friend Thomas Shillitoe, produced a satisfactory minute from Smithfield monthly meeting, State of New York.

The general Epistle of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, in the 5th month last year, was read to our edification and comfort. — Acceptable corresponding Epistles from our Brethren of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, were also read.

William Jenkins, Thomas Howland, Samuel F. Hussey, William Almy, Stephen A. Chase, John R. Davis, David Sherman, Seleg Adkins, Rowland Greene, Samuel B. Tobey, Jeremiah Jones, Robert Windsor, Esek Newhall, Benjamin Peirce and John Wilbur, are appointed to take said Epistles into consideration, and as way may open for it, prepare drafts of communications to those Meetings and lay before this at a future sitting.

All the Quarterly Meetings inform, that they have paid, or have given directions for the payment to our Treas. of their respective proportions of Stock.

Benjamin Freeborn, Esek Newhall, Stephen Rogers, William Cobb, Moses Pinner, Joseph Howland, & John Brown are appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, consider of a sum proper to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, also to propose a Treasurer, ——— and report at a future sitting.

We are informed by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting that

the

1829. that it has united with the respective Monthly Meetings of which they are members, in the appointment to the station of Elder, of Eli Bufington of Swanzey, David Rodmas of Scituate, and Joanna Peck of Greenwich —— by Salem, that it is united with Weare monthly Meeting in the appointment of Daniel Gove Junr to the station of an Elder; with Salem in approving the publick ministry of Henry Chase: and with Seabrook, in approving the publick ministry of Abigail Miller —— by Sandwich, that it has united with Dartmouth monthly meeting in the appointment of Seth Davis, with New Bedford, in the appointment of Silvia Spinnell, to the station of Elders; and with Sandwich monthly meeting in approving the publick ministry of Hulbah Gifford —— and that William Rotch, Junr of New Bedford, is dismissed from the station of an Elder. —— We are informed by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, that it has united with Windham Me. Meeting in the appointment of Rufus Allen and Mariam Cartland to the station of Elders and with Falmouth in the appointment of William Purinton and Anna Purinton to the same station. —— by Nantucket Quarterly Meeting, that it has united with Lynn Me. meeting, in the appointment of Timothy Bailey Paine to the station of an Elder — and by Dover, that it has united with Berwick Me. meeting, in approving the publick Ministry of John D. Lang.

The following communication, the reception of which at an earlier period has been delayed by circumstances not within our knowledge, was read at the present time, and with the Books accompanying it, is accepted as a token of the kind remembrance of our brethren of the Yearly Meeting of London: viz.

"The Meeting for Sufferings in London having given
"permission for the printing of a new edition of the Epistles
"of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London from
"1681 to 1817, inclusive, with an Introduction, containing
"some Epistles not before printed, and considering that
"such a publication would probably be acceptable to
"the several Yearly Meetings of Friends in America,
"has directed a copy to be forwarded to each of them,
"together with the Selection from the advices of the said
"Yearly Meeting, published some time since by direc-
"tion of the Meeting for Sufferings. The Books are ac-
"cordingly sent herewith for the acceptance of the Yearly
"Meeting of Friends of New England.

by William Manley, Recording Clerk.

"London, 27th of 3rd month, 1819.

"To the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting of Friends
of New England."

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met.

The representatives having produced Minutes of their appointment by their Quarterly Meeting, their appointment to this service is united with.

Having, at this time the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Esther Griffin, of Purchase, State of New York, Elizabeth Pitfield, of Philadelphia, and Anna M. Thorn, of Nine Partners, satisfactory minutes of their respective Meetings expressive of unity with their ministry, and present religious engagements, were read at this sitting.

Believing that there are subjects, which in the existing state of Society, may claim the deliberate consideration of this Meeting, and which may be usefully matured and introduced by a Committee, we appoint Rowland Greene, William Almy, Obadiah Davis, Samuel T. Hussey, Stephen Gould, Moses Sleeper, Stephen Rogers, Thomas Howland, Thomas Anthony, John Wilbur, Benjamin Freeborn, Abraham Shearman, Jun. John R. Davis, James Tucker, William Jenkins, Stephen Jones, Stephen A. Chase, Cornelius Howland, Joshua Meader, Seth Kelley, Walter Allen, Benjamin Fry, John Page, Thomas Jones, John Brown, Job Otis, Joseph Tripp, and Estes Newhall to take the state of Society, generally, into consideration, and to report to this Meeting, from time to time, the result of their deliberations thereon.

The following report of the Boarding School Committee was read and considered; and being satisfactory to this Meeting, the Clerk is directed to forward copies thereof, to our several Monthly Meetings. viz.—

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Boarding School Committee report, That in pursuance of their appointment they have paid attention to the superintendence of the Institution for the year past, and believe that its various concerns have been conducted in accordance with the design of Friends in its establishment, and Meetings for worship have been regularly kept up.

The School has been conducted during the year past under the care of Enoch & Lydia Reed as Superintendents who still remain in that capacity, and Stephen & Hannah Gould have been usefully engaged as assistants in the care of the Institution, for a few months past. Isaiah Jones, Moses Mitchell, Joseph Hoag, Abigail Peirce, Mary Almy, Lydia B. Allen, and Sarah Hoag, have been engaged as teachers, during most of the year. Several of these have left, or are about leaving the School, and the Committee have made and are making arrangements to supply their places.

The greatest number of Scholars at any one time as reported to the Committee, was 184; the average number during the year, 135; and the good conduct & improvement manifested, has been generally satisfactory to the Committee.

1829

The accounts of the Treasurer of the School Fund visit of the Superintendent have been received and audited, and the State of the Fund is such that the Committee think it safe to propose to the Yearly Meeting, that Children of those members of this Yearly Meeting continue to be admitted at twelve dollars and a half per Quarter, and that the several Monthly Meetings again have the privilege of sending one Child through the year, or two Children six months each, free of expence; and that when from any peculiarity of circumstances, the Committees of Mo. Meetings may consider it desirable to send a Child for three months only then have the liberty of doing it: provided that no more than two Children be at the Institution at one time from the same Monthly Meeting, on this privilege. And being apprised that the two Monthly Meetings on Nantucket have been united into one Meeting, the Committee after considering the circumstance, propose that the united Meeting, have the same privilege of sending Children to the School, as has heretofore been enjoyed by the two Mo. Meetings separately. Signed on behalf of the Committee by

Providence, 5mo 8, 1829. Moses Brown,
Mary B. Allen."

The subject of the continuance of the present Committee, or the appointment of a new one, is referred to the consideration of the Committee on the state of Society, with liberty to introduce suitable names if they consider a new appointment advisable.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, made the following report? viz.t

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting. ——— Agreeable to appointment, we have settled the Treasurer's account, and find a balance due him of eighty-one dollars 84 cent. ——— And we propose the sum of eight hundred Dollars to be raised for the ensuing year, and also propose William Almy for Treasurer. On behalf of the Committee,

6mo. 15, 1829. Benj.a Freeborn."

which is acceptable to the Meeting — and in conformity therewith, William Almy is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing; and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward to him such proportions of eight hundred Dollars, the sum proposed to be raised, as may be directed at a future sitting, the Representatives having the subject of apportionment now under consideration.

The Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting, to confer or correspond with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, as proposed by that of Ohio, — report, that three of their number, met at Mount Pleasant, in the 9th month last, with Representatives convened from several of the other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, — and have nothing further to lay before this Meeting, than what is embraced in the following report of the general Committee so convened, — viz.t

to the Yearly Meetings of Rhode Island, Philadelphia, Virginia,
North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana.

"The Committee appointed by the several Yearly Meetings to confer upon the general interests of the Society, &c. — report,

That agreeable to their appointment, they assembled from each Meeting, convened at Mount Pleasant, Ohio, on the 4th of the 9th month 1828. The object of this appointment as proposed by the Yearly Meeting of Ohio, being more intimately to connect the feeling and general interests of Society, the Committee visited several settings, and endeavoured to wait for a qualification to discharge the duty which had been laid upon them by the Yearly Meetings.

"Several subjects were brought in view & received consideration, and as the appointment was felt to be of a very responsible nature, we did believe that the way was not clearly opened to mature any subject so as to offer it for the deliberation of the Yearly Meetings.

We submit to the judgment of the Yearly Meetings the propriety of continuing Similar Committees.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Representatives,

Sam.l Bettle, Clerk."

which report being read, is acceptable to us, — and the further consideration of the subject is referred to the Committee on the State of Society, to report thereon at a future sitting.

Minutes accompanying the Epistles received at this time from the Yearly Meetings of London, New York, Baltimore, Ohio, and Indiana, are referred to the consideration of the same Committee.

A deed executed by Joseph Varney, of Wolfboro', New Hampshire, in the 3d month last, conveying to this Yearly Meeting, a piece of land, for the use and purpose of a Meeting house Lot for the Society of Friends, was presented, and directed to be deposited with the Yearly Meetings records & papers, now in care of our friend Moses Brown.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third day afternoon, 6th month 18th.

Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Meeting proceeded, at the opening of this sitting to consider the State of Society as spread before us by the reading of the answers of the several Quarterly Meetings to the Queries, which were gone through with; & the following Summary is meant to embrace the substance of the answers received: viz.

Answer 1. All our Meetings for worship and Discipline have been duly held, except a few instances in which some of our smaller Meetings were omitted, in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, or by occasion of Sickness. — Yet there is much deficiency among us in the diligent performance of the duty of assembling ourselves together on these important occasions. The hour of meeting is generally observed. There are a few instances of sleeping. — Mostly clear of other unbecoming behaviour. — 2. Love and unity appear to be generally maintained, yet there is some falling short herein, and one account states, that in some instances they are much wanting. — Detraction is guarded against, but not without exceptions. — Endeavours are used to end differences when

1829. Fifth day. 3. Care is manifested by many Friends to bring up those who are under their charge in plainness and to restrain them from the perusal of pernicious books, as well as from corrupting conversation — yet much deficiency is apparent in the discharge of these important duties, and in some instances a good example is wanting. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends Families. — 4. Friends are mostly careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine; yet there are some exceptions, and one instance of dealing in them as an article of trade has occurred, and is under notice. The frequenting of taverns & places of publick resort is mostly guarded against; — some instances of deviation therein, are also under notice. — Moderation appear to be, mostly maintained on the occasions referred to. — — 5. The circumstances of the Poor are attended to. — In a few instances children have been placed from under the care of Friends. — 6. Friends, it appears, are generally careful that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline; yet there are exceptions, in regard to which some care has been extended; and instances of marrying out are under notice. — 7. Our testimonies against the payment of priests wages, against War, & the defunding of the revenues appear to be generally maintained; yet in a few instances the former testimony has not been supported; and some instances of deviation of a military nature have also occurred, and with the others, are under notice. — 8. Friends are mostly careful to instruct their affairs and settle their accounts; observe punctuality in their promises & payment of their debts, and consult to live within the bounds of their circumstances; yet there are several instances of deficiency in several particulars of this query, which are under notice. — 9. Friends are careful to have their marriages recorded; births, deaths & burials are not so fully attended to. — A few removals without certificate are under notice. — 10. Care is generally taken to deal with offenders in a good degree as queried. — Yet we are sensible, that in some instances more extensive & timely care is wanting. Judgment appears to have been placed according to the requisitions of Discipline.

The Representatives propose that the Sum which it was agreed yesterday to raise for the use of this Meeting, be apportioned to the several Quarterly Meetings, as follows: Rhode-Island, 30 per cent. — Salem, 12½, — Sandwich, 30. — Falmouth, 4¾, — Smithfield, 12½, — Vassalborough, 4. — Dover, 6¼. — which is united with

Francis Taber, on behalf of the Committee named to inform Asa Smith of the decision of this Meeting in the case of his appeal, reports that they attended to that service.

The Committee on the Correspondence are requested to prepare essays of such Certificates or Minutes of indorsement for our Friends from abroad, who are now with us, as may appear necessary, and also one for our friend Isaac Braithwaite, who attended this Meeting last year; & present such essays at a future sitting.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

1 Purports the adoption of the following minute

Fourth day morning, the 17th.

Met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on the State of Society, to which the minute of the conference of Committees of the several Yearly Meetings was referred, / which being read, and deliberately considered in this and the Women's Meeting, are united with, viz.

It is the conclusion of this Yearly Meeting to continue the appointment of a Committee to meet with Committees from the other Yearly Meetings, to take into consideration and propose for the approbation and adoption of each Meeting, what may appear to said joint Committees to be promotive of the best interests of the Society, and in an especial manner, it is the desire of this Meeting, that their Committee propose to the united Committee to collect and prepare a concise declaration of our faith and principles, as these have always been held and maintained by our Society, from its first rise to the present time; and that this when prepared, be presented to each Yearly Meeting; and if approved & adopted by all the Yearly Meetings, that it be considered as an unequivocal definition of our faith and principles in regard to the great fundamental doctrines of the Gospel of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ; together with such other subjects connected with the welfare of our religious Society, as the Truth may open the way for them to deliberate upon. But that whatever may appear to said Committee as essentially connected with this great end it is the sense of this Meeting, that said Committee be not at liberty to act conclusively, in any case or on any subject, but only to prepare and submit to the consideration & approval of the Yearly Meetings.

The Friends now under appointment, viz. Rowland Greene, William Ring, William Jenkins, Thomas Howland, Stephen M. Chase, Moses Sleeper, John Osborne, Benjamin Freeborn, Abraham Shearman, Jr. Elizabeth Wing, Alice Rathbun, Mary B. Allen, Hannah Collins, Deborah Otis, and Abigail Robinson, / with the addition of Thomas Anthony, Cornelius Howland and Samuel T. Hussey, are continued a Committee on the part of this Meeting, to confer or correspond with similar Committees that have been or may be appointed by other Yearly Meetings, and are desired to report to our next Yearly Meeting. And the Clerk is directed to furnish said Committee with a copy of this Minute.

It was proposed by Ohio Yearly Meeting, held in the 9th month last, that the next Meeting of the Committees from the different Yearly Meetings, be held at Philadelphia, on the last 2d day in the 7th month of the present year, - which is agreeable to us.

The Minute of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year was read; and the attention thereby manifested to the concerns of Society that have come before them is satisfactory to this Meeting.

The subject of the continuance of the Friends now under appointment, in the nomination of those, is referred to the Committee on the state of Society, to report thereon at a future sitting.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

1829. Thursday. Friends again met.

[illegible]

Rowland Greene, Estes Newhall, Stephen M. Chase, David Buffum,
Thomas Rowland, Cornelius Howland, Daniel Johnson, William Wade,
[illegible] Daniel Cornell, Thomas Gay, Nojah Chase,
Obadiah Davis, Walter Allen, Benjamin Gay, Oliver Chase,
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Cornelius Gifford,
Rowland Rathbun, William Cobb, John Osborne, Sam.l M. Hussey,
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] William Jenkins, Matthew Turner,
Stephen Gould, Thomas Anthony, Josiah Congdon, Peleg Peckham,

which is united with, and they are accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing.

Moses Brown, William Almy, Stephen Gould, & Obadiah Brownell, Junr. are appointed Correspondents of this Meeting with the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland.

The Committee on the State of Society, proposed the adoption of [illegible] which claimed the united consideration of this meeting, is directed to be forwarded to all our subordinate Meetings.

[illegible] Book of Discipline in their possession viz.

"The importance of steadfastly maintaining our ancient principles, respecting the doctrines of the Gospel, coming renewedly under our consideration, we earnestly recommend and enjoin upon [illegible] and upon all parents & heads of families, that they carefully attend to the instruction of their children in the fundamental truths of the Gospel, that Christ came in the flesh, wherein he tasted death for every man, and was the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world, suffering the just for the unjust, that we might be brought nigh to God. We are led to this spiritual appearance in the heart, for "unto them that look for him, shall he appear the second time, without sin, unto salvation." And if in any instance there should be manifested any deviation from our Christian principles in these respects, that they proceed to labour with such in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, endeavouring to bring them to a sense of their departure from our acknowledged principles, that if possible they may be restored to soundness of faith. And if there should be any who should persist in their error, notwithstanding such endeavours in gospel love, that our testimony be maintained by testifying against such."

The Committee on the state of Society, to which was referred Minutes of the Yearly Meetings of London, New York, Baltimore, Ohio and Indiana, produced at this time, have attended to the service and considered it in connection with the relation in which we stand

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 14th to the 18th inclusive, of the 6th month, 1829.

The Committee on the state of Society, to which was referred Minutes of the Yearly Meetings of London, New-York, Baltimore, Ohio, and Indiana, received at this time, have given attention to the subject, and considered it in connection with the relation in which we stand towards the other Yearly Meetings of Friends in this country, and propose the adoption of the following Minutes, which being read and considered, are united with, and copies thereof directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings; and also to be transmitted to the several Yearly Meetings with which we correspond.

THIS Meeting having last year been introduced into much exercise, on account of the difficulties which had then been manifested in our religious Society, in various sections of this country, and which had prevailed till separation had been the sorrowful result, deemed it an indispensable duty to meet the exigencies of the occasion, by declaring our unity with those Meetings that had continued steadfast in their adherence to the ancient order, discipline, and faith of the Society, and our disunity with those who had receded therefrom.

We feel it to be our duty, again to advert to this painful subject, and to state to our subordinate Meetings, that not only within the limits of the Yearly Meetings of Pennsylvania and New-York, (to which reference was had in our minute of last year,) but also within those of Baltimore, Ohio and Indiana, separate bodies exist, under the name of Yearly Meetings of Friends, with Quarterly, Monthly, and other Meetings in connection with them, which are not in fellowship with us as a religious community.

In consequence of the embarassments and mistakes to which Friends are exposed by the separatists thus continuing to take the name and character of Friends, the Yearly Meetings of New-York, Ohio, and Indiana, in acknowledged unity with us, have been induced to furnish the names of Correspondents appointed by them in their several Quarterly Meetings, one or more of whom is to sign, (in addition to the usual mode of signing,) all removal or other certificates or documents, issued, which are to go beyond the limits of their respective Quarterly Meetings.—And in order that certificates may duly reach the meetings to which they are directed, it is recommended by them, that they be forwarded to one of those Friends.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING has directed, that to the names of all the Meetings of every description, within the compass of their Yearly Meeting, the following words be added: "*In unity with the ancient Yearly Meetings of Friends;*" and have appointed ISAAC BROOKS, JAMES GILLINGHAM, and NICHOLAS POPPLEIN, residing in the city of Baltimore, a Committee, one of whom is to sign, in addition to the usual signature of the Clerk, all Minutes or Certificates issued by Monthly or Quarterly Meetings for any of their Ministers or Members.

CORRESPONDENTS OF NEW-YORK YEARLY MEETING.

WESTBURY QUARTERLY MEETING.

		Post Office Address.
New-York Monthly Meeting,	William F. Mott,	*New York.*
Flushing "	Samuel Parsons,	*Flushing, Queens County, N. Y.*
Westbury & Jerico "	Thomas Willis,	*Jerico, do. do.*

PURCHASE QUARTERLY MEETING.

Purchase Monthly Meeting,	Richard Mott,	*Mamaroneck, Westchester County, N. Y.*
Amawalk "	Stephen Brown,	*Peekskill, do. do.*
Shapaqua "	Elihu Griffen,	*Mount Pleasant, do. do.*

NINE PARTNERS QUARTERLY MEETING.

Nine Partners Monthly Meeting,	Isaac Thorne,	*Washington, Duchess County, N. Y.*
Oblong "	William Leach,	*Sherman, Fairfield do. Conn.*
Oswego "	Enoch Dorland,	*Arthursburg, Duchess do. N. Y.*

EASTON QUARTERLY MEETING.

East Hoosack Monthly Meeting,	John Upton,	*North Adams, Berkshire County, Mass.*
Danby "	Harris Otis,	*Danby, Rutland do. Vermont.*

STANFORD QUARTERLY MEETING.

Creek Monthly Meeting,	Reuben Howes,	*Poughkeepsie, Duchess County, N. Y.*
Stanford "	John F. Hull,	*Stanfordville, do. do.*
Hudson "	Isaac Lyons,	*Federal Store, Columbia do. do.*

FERRISBURGH QUARTERLY MEETING.

Ferrisburgh Monthly Meeting,	John Knowles,	*Monkton, Addison County, Vermont.*
Starksborough "	Amos Battey,	*Starksborough, do. do.*
Peru "	David Harkness,	*Keeseville, Essex do. N. Y.*

CANADA HALF YEAR'S MEETING.

Westlake Monthly Meeting,	Gilbert Dorland,	*Hallowell, Prince Edward County, Upper Canada.*
Leeds and Adolphus "	John Ferris,	*Kingston, do.*
Yonge Street "	Thomas Linville,	*New Market, do.*
Pelham "	Joseph King,	*Thorold, Deep Cut, do.*
Norwich "	Frederic Stover,	*Burford, Oxford County, do.*

FARMINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING.

Collins Monthly Meeting,	John Strang,	*Lodi, Cataragus County, New York.*
Hamburgh "	James Sherman,	*East Hamburgh, Erie County, do.*
Hartland "	Nathan Comstock,	*Lockport, Niagara do. do.*
Farmington "	Isaac Hathaway,	*New Salem, Ontario do. do.*
Rochester "	Mead Atwater,	*Rochester, Monroe do. do.*

SARATOGA QUARTERLY MEETING.

Queensbury Monthly Meeting,	James Mott,	*Clarksboro, Saratoga do. do.*
Milton "	James Allen,	*Greenfield, do. do. do.*
Galway "	Wing Chace,	*Providence, do. do. do.*
Le Roy "	Daniel Child,	*LeRoy, Jefferson do. do.*
Low Ville "	Ebenezer Hill,	*Lowville, Lewis do. do.*
Saratoga "	Paul Kirby,	*Halfmoon, Sarotoga, do. do.*

DUANESBURGH QUARTERLY MEETING.

Coeyman's Monthly Meeting,	Samuel T. Powell,	*Coxsackie, Green do. do.*
Rensellaerville "	Peter Stover,	*Rensellaerville, Albany do. do.*
Duanesburgh "	Jonathan Soule,	*Duanesburgh, Schenectady do. do.*
Butternnts "	Edward Cornell,	*Butternuts, Otsego do. do.*
Bridgewater "	Obadiah Williams,	*Bridgewater, Oneida do. do.*

CORNWALL QUARTERLY MEETING.

Cornwall Monthly Meeting,	Jabez Greene,	*Canterbury, do. do.*
Marlborough "	Daniel Birdsall,	*Newburgh, do. do. do.*
Plains "	Isaiah Tilson,	*Hurley, Ulster do. do.*

SCIPIO QUARTERLY MEETING.

Deruyter Monthly Meeting,	James Derbyshire,	*Deruyter, Madison do. do.*
Scipio "	Humphrey Howland,	*Aurora, Cayuga do. do.*
Hector "	WilliamCarman,	*Trumansburgh, Tompkins do. do.*

CORRESPONDENTS OF OHIO YEARLY MEETING.

Redstone Quarter	George Smith, *East Bethlehem*,	*Washington County*,	*Penn.*	
	David Cattle, *Brownsville*,	*Fayette*	*do.*	*do.*
	Joshua Cope, *Providence*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
Short Creek Quarter	Isaac Parker, *Mountpleasant*,	*Jefferson County*,	*Ohio.*	
	Benj. W. Ladd, *Smithfield*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	Joseph Williams, *Flushing*,	*Belmont*	*do.*	*do.*
Salem Quarter	William Heald, *Fairfield*,	*Columbiana*	*do.*	*do.*
	John Street, *Salem*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	Samuel Woolman, *do.*	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	Demsy Johnson, *do.*	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
Still Water Quarter	William Green, *Barnsville*,	*Belmont County*,	*do.*	
	Joseph Edgerton, *do.*	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	Samuel Embree, *M'Connelsville*,	*Morgan*	*do.*	*do.*
New Garden Quarter	John Johnson, *New Garden*,	*Columbiana*	*do.*	*do.*
	Levi Miller, *Hanover*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	David Hole, *Fairfield*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*

CORRESPONDENTS OF INDIANA YEARLY MEETING.

Miami Quarter	Robert Furnace, *Waynesville*,	*Warren County*,	*Ohio.*	
	John Garretson, *Springborough*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	William Benedict, *Bennington*,	*Delaware*	*do.*	*do.*
	John Davis, *Cincinnati*,			*do.*
	Henry Pickerel, *Zanesfield*,	*Logan*	*do.*	*do.*
	Elijah Anderson, *Charleston*,	*Clark*	*do.*	*do.*
West Branch Quarter	Samuel Teague, Samuel Jay, Samuel Jones,	*Union, Miami*	*do.*	*do.*
Fairfield Quarter	Richard Barrett, *Hillsborough*,	*Highland*	*do.*	*do.*
	Gershom Perdue, *Leesburgh*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	James Hadley, *Wilmington*,	*Clinton*	*do.*	*do.*
White-Water Quarter	Stephen Macy, *Richmond*,	*Wayne County*,	*Indiana.*	
	Elijah Coffin, *Milton*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	John Marshall, *Economy*,	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
Blue River Quarter	Nathaniel Newlin, *Rockville*,	*Park*	*do.*	*do.*
	Joel Dixon, *Mooresville*,	*Morgan*	*do.*	*do.*
	Henry Wilson, *Salem*,	*Washington*	*do.*	*do.*
	Richard Hayworth, *Newport*,	*Vermillion*	*do.*	*do.*
New Garden Quarter	Francis Thomas, *New Garden*,	*Wayne*	*do.*	*do.*
	Jonathan Johnson, *do.*	*do.*	*do.*	*do.*
	Benjamin Cox, *Winchester*,	*Randolph*	*do.*	*do.*
Westfield Quarter	Thomas Talbert, *Jacksonburgh*,	*Butler*	*do.*	*do.*
	Joseph Stubbs, *Newcome*,	*Preble*	*do.*	*do.*
	William Talbert, *Liberty*,	*Union*	*do.*	*do.*
Centre Quarter	Caleb Harvey, Joseph Doan, jr. David Bailey,	*Wilmington, Clinton*	*do.*	*do.*

The following Minute of the Yearly Meeting of London, held in the 5th month, 1828, accompanied its Epistle to this Meeting:

"This Meeting has directed that all Certificates of removals, issued by our Monthly Meetings to Friends on the continent of America, be forwarded by the Meeting which issues them, to their correspondents in London, in order to their being by them transmitted to America; and this Meeting suggests, to the several Yearly Meetings of Friends in America, the propriety of their directing that certificates, on behalf of Friends removing to within the compass of this Yearly Meeting, be forwarded to the care of the correspondents in or near London, who are appointed by this Meeting for the respective Yearly Meetings on the American continent."

And it is our conclusion, that all Certificates and other documents issued by our subordinate Meetings, and addressed to the Meetings of Friends in Great Britain and Ireland, be transmitted by the Meetings issuing them, to one of the correspondents of this Yearly Meeting, (who are Moses Brown, William Almy, Abraham Shearman, Jr. and Stephen Gould,) to be forwarded by them to the correspondents of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland.

From the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid,

ABRAHAM SHEARMAN, Jr. *Clerk.*

[illegible] Meetings of Friends in this country, and [illegible] the adoption of the following Minutes, which being read and considered [illegible] to be [illegible] Meeting; and were to be transmitted to the several Meetings [illegible] correspondent, viz:

"This Meeting having last year been introduced into much [illegible] on account of [illegible] had been manifested in our religious Society, in various sections of this country, and which had occasioned [illegible] it an indispensable duty to [illegible] declaring our unity with those Meetings that had continued steadfast in their adherance to the ancient order, discipline & truth of the Society, and our disunity with those who had receded therefrom. "We feel it to be our duty again to advert to [illegible] not only within [illegible] but also within those of Baltimore, Ohio, and Indiana, separate bodies which under the name of Hicksites or Unitarians, which are not in fellowship with us as a religious community.

"In consequence of the embarrassments and mistakes to which Friends are exposed by the [illegible] in the country, to take the name and character of Friends, the Yearly Meetings of New York, Ohio, and Indiana, in acknowledged unity with us, have [illegible] to furnish the [illegible] with certificates or documents, issued, which are to go beyond the limits of their [illegible] Yearly Meetings. [illegible] may duly reach the Meetings to which they are directed, it is recommended by them, that they be forwarded to one of these Friends.

"[illegible] Yearly Meeting has [illegible] to the [illegible] Meetings [illegible] the Yearly Meeting of the United States, the following [illegible] unity with the Ancient Yearly Meetings of Friends [illegible] and Indiana, [illegible] Joseph Elkinton and Charles Ellis, willing on the part of this Meeting a Committee, on application to you in addition to the usual [illegible] of the Clerk of your Meeting or certificates issued by Monthly or Quarterly Meetings for any of their Ministers or Members.

[illegible] the Yearly Meetings of New York, Ohio & Indiana, are printed Minutes.

"[illegible] Meeting of the [illegible] Meeting of Friends held in the 3d month 1828, accompanied its Epistle to the Meeting: "This Meeting has directed that all certificates of removal, issued by the Monthly Meetings to Friends on the [illegible] of persons to [illegible] to the Meeting which [illegible] to their [illegible] in order to this being [illegible] Meeting [illegible] suggested to the [illegible] Meetings of Friends in America in the [illegible] of the minute

[illegible]

And it is our conclusion, that all Certificates and other documents issued by our subordinate Meetings, and addressed to the Meetings of Friends in Great Britain and Ireland, be transmitted by the Meeting issuing them, to one of the Correspondents of this Yearly Meeting, to be forwarded by them to the Correspondents of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland."

Adjourned to the 11th hour tomorrow morning.

Fifth day morning, the 18th. Friends again met.

The Committee on Indian concerns, produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends to be held on Rhode-Island, in the 6th month, 1829.

The Committee on the Indian concerns have attended to their appointment, and since our last report have made them a visit on the Penobscot; and from our own observation, and information from [illegible], who appear to be interested in their welfare, we are enabled to state, that a number of them are still progressing in their agricultural pursuits, and have got several houses under way since last year, some of which are finished. They [illegible] their stock of domestic animals.

The government of Maine, out of their own funds, have put them [illegible] house and school-house, in the course of last summer, [illegible] some funds have authorized their agent [illegible] to attend to their farming & other concerns, the present year. And paid government, from the Indian funds are this summer putting them up a Meeting-house. And their Priest has shewed a good [illegible] in that of their children appear to be making good proficiency, especially in writing. [illegible] has been thought best to extend for their encouragement as before, we think it should be continued [illegible] some of them. [illegible] for the encouragement, as heretofore, be granted to the judgment of this Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Moses Sleeper.

June 15, 1829.

"The sum of one hundred dollars will probably cover the expense incurred last year, and furnish them with a like sum the present year, as they have heretofore had the encouragement of, from year to year."

[illegible] which was read, and the attention given to the Committee to the object of their appointment, and to the [illegible] and believing it to be right from a further attention, [illegible] on the last day of the Meeting, the Friends appointed will [illegible] to the next ensuing, to find such aid in promoting this [illegible] people as may [illegible] circumstances of the [illegible] & civilized domestic life, and in the improvement of their moral character, as may [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Committee.

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
William [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Edward [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Daniel Rowland,	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rowland Greene,	John Farnum,	Moses Shepherd,	Isaac Bassett, Jr.
Jon.a Dennis,	David Buffum, Jr.	John Osborne,	Ebenr. Pope,
William [illegible],	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nicholas Brayton,	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Samuel H. Hussey,	Effm. L. Cahoon	Stephen Gould,	William Reynolds.
Abijah Chase	Francis Taber.	Thomas Jones,	Isaiah Jones
John Wilbur	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wm. Forster.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

being prepared by the Comm[illegible] are appointed to constitute, with the addition of such others as may be appointed by the Yearly Meeting Committee for the government and [illegible] for the ensuing year, agreeably to the authority and direction heretofore given to Standing Committees.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed as by minute of 1827, and continued last year, to visit Quarterly [illegible] and other subordinate Meetings, Report, that some attention has been paid to their appointment, and several of the Committee have visited [illegible] in encouraging [illegible] in the main [illegible] Testimonies as way opened for, which we think has been attended with usefulness. We are united in recommending the continuance of this care, by a similar Committee, should way open for it, in the judgment of the Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Committee, by

Providence 18th of 6mo. 1829. Thos. Howland,
Mary P. Allen.

[illegible] appointment are continued to extend [illegible] the close of Yearly Meeting [illegible] and they be enabled in best wisdom to [illegible] Meeting next year.

[illegible] to our Friends of the Yearly Meeting [illegible] Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, were read, and [illegible]

1829 directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such verbal [illegible]

[illegible] drawing [illegible]

services of our beloved Friends, Thomas Shillitoe and Anna Braithwaite, the latter in concurrence with the Woman's Meeting and also a Certificate for our esteemed Friend Isaac Braithwaite [illegible] to be signed by the Clerk &c. viz.

To the Monthly Meeting of Hitchin, Quarterly Meeting of [illegible] Hertfordshire, and the Yearly Meeting [illegible] held in London.

Our esteemed friend Thomas Shillitoe attended our [illegible] Meeting [illegible] Certificate of unity and sympathy from his Friends at home. He is also acceptably with us at this time; and has during this visit in this country attended [illegible] within the limits of our Yearly Meeting. His gospel deportment, and labours of love amongst us have been edifying & strengthening and when the time shall arrive that he may be released from [illegible] & leaves us we desire that he may be permitted to return in safety to his family and friends with the blessing of peace. Signed &c.

To the Monthly Meeting of Kendal, the Quarterly Meeting of Westmoreland, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London.

Our esteemed friend Anna Braithwaite attended this Yearly Meeting in the years 1826, 27 & 28, and a number of other Meetings amongst [illegible] within its limits, and divers by appointment amongst those not of our Society,* In the exercise of her gift in the ministry, she gave evidence of an enlarged [illegible] & Christian love called and qualified her to minister to his Church & people. — Abiding steadfast in the Christian faith she was enabled clearly to assert by the doctrines of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and was instrumental in strengthening the hands of many amongst us. Her life and conversation was such as became a professor of Jesus Christ, and the profession of her faith. Much sympathy with her in her various trials and afflictions while on this Continent has been felt. And having now closed her labours of love in this country, and embarked for her native land we fervently believe that the Hand that has hitherto mercifully sustained her may continue to preserve & strengthen her through the future period of her pilgrimage here below, and that the blessed of peace may be her portion.

[Signed &c.]

* and visited the families of Friends in some Meetings.

To the Monthly Meeting of Kendal, in Great Britain

Our esteemed friend Isaac Braithwaite attended our Meetings in 1827 & 28 as companion to his Wife, Anna B. [illegible] and presented a Certificate from Kendal Mo. Meeting, expressive of the unity of his friends in his engagement. His company and deportment while in our land were satisfactory; and his concern for the preservation of Church Discipline and right order, we believe, will often acceptably be exercised with us in this respect.

now present with us, with minutes agreeably to essays proposed.

The Clerk is directed to make any necessary corrections in our minutes, and record, transcribe for and sign them on our behalf.

Having thereof the endeavours and unity of the great Head of the Church been enabled during the various sittings of this Meeting, to transact the important concerns of the Church that have come before us, in much harmony and unanimity — under an humbling and grateful sense of the continued favouring hand of our Heavenly Father, we now adjourn to meet in this place again on the sixth day of the sixth month next.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting,

Nathan Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 14th to the 18th inclusive, of 6th month, 1839.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London:

[If a receipt of this Epistle was duly forwarded, but the original being mislaid, it will be recorded, when found, at the close of the other Epistles.] — See next page.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Philadelphia.

Dear Friends

When met this in the capacity of a religious Meeting, and for the purpose of uniteth[illegible] our distant brethren are often brought very near to our best feelings; and we are persuaded that no test of true discipleship is known, than that laid down by our Lord & Master, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one unto another."

Under the influence of this precious principle of love, how are our hearts brought near each other and cemented together in the fellowship of the Gospel, that in sincerity we can bid each other God speed. The humility of soul and watchfulness requisite to the preservation of this heavenly feeling and its fruits is the simplicity and singleness of heart. Under this blessed influence we are led each to esteem other better than himself, and our endeavours will be to build one another up in the most holy faith.

How consoling that [illegible] is the living one it is that we cultivate this precious feeling. Let us then commit ourselves in the hands of the Gospel, and unto the word of his precious salvation, that he who hath promised that he will never leave nor forsake those who put their trust in him, we believe will be graciously near to all such. It is truly a time when every sincere lover of our Lord Jesus Christ should put on the Christian armour, and be prepared to fight the good fight, that so he may keep the faith.

1829.

We have at this time renewedly to acknowledge, with gratitude, the gracious presence of the great Head of the Church, so that in conducting many weighty concerns that have come before us, we have been favoured [illegible]

By the report of our Boarding School Committee we are encouraged to believe that that Institution continues to be very [illegible] to the [illegible] and to the Divine blessing we trust it may [illegible] from which many [illegible] are only a few [illegible] but that it may tend to direct the minds of that interesting portion of our society, in that knowledge which maketh wise unto salvation.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 4th month has been received and read amongst us to our satisfaction.

With [illegible] love, we remain Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends in London.

See preceding, page.

Dear Friends,

We are renewedly made sensible at this time, that all true ability for usefulness in the Church of Christ, is from the Lord alone, and that in him only is our sufficiency; and that unto him must we look for strength and ability to serve faithfully in his cause. We have abundant cause to be encouraged by his gracious promises thus to look unto him, who hath promised, that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he will give it unto you. The Lord will
P.s. 84. 11. give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. And among the most precious of his gifts we esteem a true and living faith, an unwavering
trust in the efficacy of the gracious provision, in unutterable mercy
x Luke 19. 10 made for the restoration of lost and fallen man, in the coming of our blessed Lord, in his sacrifice for sin, in his gracious mediation and merciful intercession for us, and in his glorious offering in our hearts by his Spirit, as the Comforter, enlightener, and director of our otherwise forlorn, dark, and erring hearts. According to our belief, this is the faith which works by love and purifies the heart: this is the faith without which it is impossible to please God. O then, may all seek to be settled and established therein, may all pray for its increase, knowing the language, Lord I believe, help thou mine unbelief. And being thus established we shall show forth the fruits of the Spirit, to the praise of Him who hath created us, and Him who hath redeemed us by his blood, having given himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works.

In looking at this time we have been led to [illegible] and we trust we can [illegible] measurably to witness that the Great [illegible] is not unmindful of us. And although we miss from

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

1829 ... to learn ... you ... been favored to witness ... love, unity and harmony. May you, dear Friends, be encouraged to hold on your way, not letting any discouragements prevail, so as to hinder your ... in the support of our precious testimonies.

... has been ... among us at this time, to guard all ... from the ensnaring devices of the adversary, which is ... to divert ... from the simplicity that is in the great truths of the Gospel, and to centre in the ... of the sacrifice of our blessed Lord upon the cross, even unto death for every man; and we have thought it right to encourage our subordinate Meetings to exercise a watchful care over the members in these respects, & to testify against every ... conduct, ... doctrine ...

With the salutation of love, we are, your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, & on behalf of said Meeting.

... Chairman, Jun. Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

We have received your acceptable Epistle of last year; the reading of which at this time has renewedly awakened in our minds a lively feeling ... with and for you, under the various ... afflictions which ... your Section; and in our desires and prayers have been, that we all may experience preservation on that foundation which standeth sure. The waves of affliction have indeed ... heavily over you, bearing away in their desolating course, ... members of those who formerly were united with you and us in Society compact. But, dear Friends, be not discouraged; for although your numbers may now be comparatively few; yet, remember that the promises of the Lord are unfailing — and we have the solemn assurance, that "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." — We feel you to be so, and are bound to acknowledge that you are as brethren united in the bonds of Christian fellowship; and we mourn with you over the desolation within your borders, but we also rejoice that there are those left amongst you who still maintain their integrity; to whom the precious doctrines of the Gospel are yet dear, and whose faith is unwaveringly in the "Eternal Divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" — his mediation & intercession for us, as our Advocate with the Father; and in that most precious saving ... which he made of himself on the cross, without the gates of Jerusalem, whereby he became "the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

And now, beloved Friends, be of good cheer, be not discouraged, and may the Holy Head of the Church be your guide and support through every trial, and enable you to experience for your portion "the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness."

Our Meeting this year has been large, and we ... favored to transact the important concerns of Society in much ... unity and brotherly condescension.

With the salutation of love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting

... Chairman. Jun. Clerk.

To the Yearly Meeting of Virginia.

Dear Friends,

In this our annual assembly our absent brethren have been peculiarly remembered, and desires have arisen that they, with ourselves, may reverently seek an understanding in the gift once delivered to the saints, that so we may be preserved in the day of unbelief, when many are ready to devour the sacred truths of the Gospel and reject the precious means of salvation, through the efficacy of that name, by which alone is our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ. The present is we believe a time that calls loudly for individual watchfulness and attention to that injunction of the Apostle, "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear."

Your weighty Epistle of last month has been received. We unite with you in sympathy in many of your trials and have had to pass through much suffering in support of those precious testimonies which our Ancient Worthies were called upon to bear, and for which they endured great persecution that they might transmit them inviolate. We have thought it peculiar cause of thankfulness that your Yearly Meeting has been preserved from the destructive spirit that has prevailed in most of the Meetings on this Continent, and although your numbers may be few, we desire you may be encouraged, remembering the promise of our gracious Lord, where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

It is gratifying to us to observe that the rights of the oppressed Africans still claim your attention and that you desire your encouragement to persevere in your exertions on their behalf. They are be[illegible] of inspiration to cause us to this class of our fellow-beings. Though removed from the immediate scene of suffering, our sympathy is excited on their account, and sincerely hope the period may not be very remote when they may enjoy the privileges, to which as members of the great family of man, they are entitled.

In answering to the State of Society as queried into by us, we could have our Subordinate Meetings in which we have generally reported a deficiency in observing many parts of our testimonies, yet we are consoled in believing that there are those not a few, to whom the cause is dear.

By the report of the Committee appointed with the care of our Boarding School, we are encouraged to believe that that Institution continues to be a benefit to the youth of our Society. The guarded education of the children of our members we have long viewed with interest and at the present time we consider it as peculiarly important that our youth become more fully acquainted with the doctrines of the Gospel as professed by our religious Society.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk

1829

To the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the 11th month last has been received, and the contents of it in this Meeting, you have been tenderly brought to our remembrance and in Gospel love we again salute you.

We have received at this time, acceptable Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond which have favored us since our last, and rejoice to unite with our brethren in supplication to the Father of Mercies, that we may be preserved in the bond of fellowship which binds us together as one family, without a blemish. It has been painful to be informed of the wide departure from Christian faith and practice that has taken place in several of the Yearly Meetings on our continent; but while we deplore these great defections, there is cause to rejoice that so many are found in every Meeting who are unitedly and faithfully endeavouring to support the Truth & maintain our excellent and original Christian form of government, which we believe to have originated in it.

Although we are no strangers within our own borders, to a spirit of Christian sorrow to behold Christ's dearest hope, yet, with gratitude, we can say, with you, we remain united as one body. The alarming extent of unsoundness in various parts of our Society, has brought a deep exercise on the minds of concerned Friends, and increased our diligence to be watchfully engaged both for ourselves and others, that we may avoid hesitating, or doubting as to the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, they may, by the judicious labors of their brethren, be restored, and be restored, are the two, from the g[illegible] towards which they are steadily [illegible] the earnest desire, that all our members may become fully established in the truth as it is in Jesus, and in the Christian faith of our ancestors, that being taught in the school of Christ, they may be prepared to detect the fallacies of the unbeliever, and at all times ready to give a reason for the hope that is in them.

The account contained in your Epistle of your exertions to convey the people of colour under your care, to free Governments, is [illegible] and [illegible] to your concern on this occasion, of sympathizing with you in this important undertaking. We are sensible that it is attended with many and various difficulties, but we desire you may not be discouraged from embracing every [illegible] to effect an end so desirable. Our prayers are for you that you may receive strength from the unfailing source from which it is to be derived.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of [illegible] Hilton and Isaac Jones from England, [illegible] Friends from neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

With truly love we remain Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk

To the Yearly Meeting of Ohio.

Dear Friends,

[illegible] our annual assembly, and we have been favoured to witness the presence of Him whose blessings are renewed oftener than the morning. Much harmony and [illegible] this precious covering, the concerns that have come before us, have been transacted. Your [illegible] the subject of our various testimonies, and much counsel has in a weighty manner been imparted to the various classes of Society; and although we have with you, to deplore the many departures that are apparent, yet we are comforted in the assurance, that there are many who in the [illegible] a Society have been [illegible] profession and the walk [illegible] increasingly established [illegible] "The word of the Lord" [illegible] at times they are [illegible] language, "My soul doth [illegible] my Saviour." [illegible] to rejoice that many of the beloved youth appear to be convinced of the Truth as it is in Jesus, and are endeavouring, as we trust, to build on the only sure foundation; this is much the case with whom we feel deeply solicitous, who although they have received many and repeated favours, [illegible] upon precept, and at times are ready to acknowledge, with one formerly, that they are almost persuaded to be Christians, yet for want of due watchfulness over the enemy has gained to their great loss; and we have felt desirous to call the attention of those to the great danger they are in for the Lord has declared that "his Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh." How needful [illegible] tion, to yield to the reproofs of instruction, which we are assured from unquestionable authority, "are the way of life," [illegible] ancient lamentation should be applicable to them, "Behold your house is left unto you desolate, and the things which belong unto your peace are hidden [illegible]"

We have deeply sympathized with you in the affliction you have had to pass through; and have been much thankful that [illegible] to the trials of the day was mercifully granted.

We received your Epistle of last year, which was read at this time, to our satisfaction; and while we continue to feel a sincere attachment to the cause of Truth and [illegible] the favours in mercy conferred, it is not likely that this intercourse will dwindle into formality, but that a solicitude will turn to time to fill that we may mutually and increasingly [illegible] in the Lord.

With the salutation of love we are

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

[illegible]

1821.

To the Yearly Meeting of Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Being again assembled at our Annual Meeting, we have received your Epistle which has been read amongst us to our satisfaction. We have been introduced into tender sympathy with you on account of the present spiritual state of Society within your limits, and earnestly desire that none of us may be discouraged from faithfully maintaining the doctrines and discipline of our religious Society. This is in truth a day wherein the faithful followers of a crucified Redeemer have to contend with the unbeliever, face to face; and all such should be encouraged by remembering that those who fight the good fight of faith will in the end receive the crown of righteousness prepared for all those that love the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ. And notwithstanding so many have made shipwreck of their faith, the mourners in Zion may be comforted by knowing that the great body of Society remains firmly united in Christian fellowship, and can adopt the language of the Apostle: "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed."

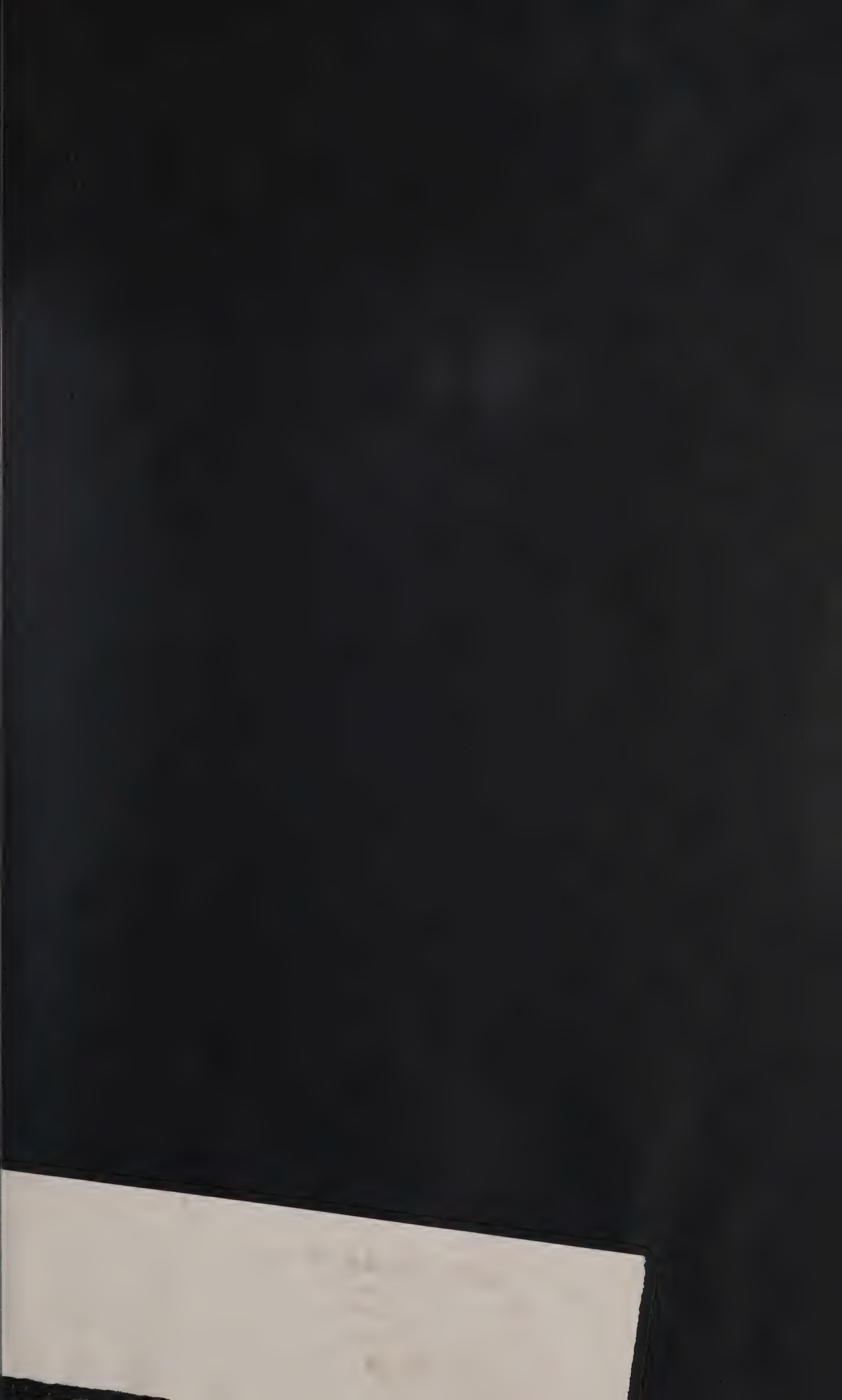
This our annual assembly has been large, and we have but cause to acknowledge with all due gratitude, that the wing of ancient goodness has been measurably over us, so that we have been enabled to conduct the concerns that have come before us with much unanimity. We have been led into deep exercise, that all within our Society may become fully instructed in Christian faith and doctrines; and this exercise has resulted in sending down a minute to our subordinate Meetings, encouraging an increased attention to this subject; that if any are found who do not believe with us in fundamental points of faith, both as it relates to the actual offering of Jesus Christ on the cross, as a propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, as well as the internal manifestation of his Spirit in our hearts, they may be labored with in love for their help, and if this cannot be effected, that Society free itself from the reproach of having them called by our name.

We are gratified to observe by your Epistle, that you continue your exertions on behalf of the Indian natives, notwithstanding some discouraging circumstances have recently taken place. The report of our own Committee in regard to the Penobscot tribe has led us to believe that good has resulted to them from the care of Friends, and we feel encouraged to continue our attentions to them. — It is also with satisfaction we observe your concern in educating the children of the African race, and in endeavouring to remove prejudices that exist towards this oppressed and injured people; and by our Friends in Virginia we are informed that a change is gradually taking place in the public mind in favour of granting them the rights to which they are so fully entitled.

With the salutation of love, we are your Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Henry Shearman, Jr. Clk.



All the Quarterly Meetings, except Nassalborough, inform that they have paid, or have given the necessary direction for payment to our Treasurer, of their respective proportions of Stock, as directed last year. We are informed by one of the Representatives from Nassalborough that that Meeting has also given the necessary direction in this respect.

1830. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode-Island, beginning with Publick Meetings for Worship at Newport & Portsmouth on First-day the 13th of the Sixth Month, 1830, and on Second-day morning, the 14th, at Newport, for Discipline.

Accounts were received from all our Quarterly Meetings, and the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are, for R. Island, Daniel Howland, John Wilbur, Benjamin Freeborn, Oliver Chase, William Almy — Salem, Isaac Bassett, Jonathan Nichols, John Page, Elijah Chase — Sandwich, James Tucker, Joseph Davis, Cornelius Howland, Seth Kelley, Prince Gardner, Stephen Rogers — Falmouth, Samuel T. Hussey, Stephen Jones, Nathan Pope, Charles Cartland — Smithfield, Jesse Bailey, Jonathan Fry, Daniel Clapp, Silas Earl, Moses Farnum — Vassalborough, Moses Parkey, Stephen Jones, John Warren, Israel Goddard, Elisha Jones, Caleb Nichols — Dover, Timothy Varney, Joshua Jenkins, Timothy Hanson, James Hussey, Joshua Meader — whose names being called, they were all present except two, for the absence of one of whom, a satisfactory reason was assigned.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, Elisha Bates, of Short Creek Monthly Meeting, Ohio, Joseph Bowne, of Butternuts Monthly Meeting, State of New York, and Valentine Meader, of Parkersburgh Monthly Meet.g Vermont — who produced satisfactory Certificates of unity with their Ministry & present religious engagements, from their respective Monthly & Quarterly Meetings. Our esteemed Friend Abel W. Townsend, of Middleton Monthly Meeting, Ohio, companion to Elisha Bates, and John P. Osborne, of Parkersburgh Monthly Meeting, companion to Valentine Meader, are also acceptably with us.

The general Epistle of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London in the 5th month last year with its Epistle directed to this Meeting, and a Minute declaratory of its unity in regard to some of the fundamental truths of the Christian religion and of its union with any bodies of religious professors which do not acknowledge those truths — and an Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends of Ireland, with minutes accompanying, were severally read to our edification & comfort — and the Declaratory Minute from London directed to be placed on our Records. — Acceptable Epistles from our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia New-York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio & Indiana were also received and read at this sitting.

Thomas Howland, William Jenkins, William Almy, Samuel B. Fowler, John Wilbur, Edward Cobb [illegible] Vic Moses Farnum, Stephen Gould, Israel Jones, Isaac Bassett, Howland Freeborn, George Mitchell and John Osborn [illegible] into consideration; and as way may open for it, prepare Essays of communications to those Meetings, and lay before this at a future sitting.

David Buffum, Jonathan Nichols, Stephen Rogers, Peter W. Mowry, Howland Rathbun, Moses Pierce, and Joshua Meader are appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, consider of a sum proper to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, name a Treasurer, and report at a future sitting.

We

1830. We are informed by the accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings — that Lloyd Irons, of Greenwich Monthly Meeting; Edmund Case, of Swanzey; Edward Gove, Jun.r of Seabrook; Elizabeth Pearson, of Weare; Sarah Blaisdell, of Uxbridge; and Abigail Beale, of Sandwich, ch. Hanover, with the concurrence of their respective Quarterly Meetings, have been appointed to the station of Elders; and that Mark Coffin, of Nantucket, has been disinvested from that station.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, and being satisfactory to this Meeting, copies thereof were directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Boarding School Committee report. That they have, during the past year, endeavoured to promote the objects confided to their care by the Yearly Meeting, in the superintendence of the Institution; and are thankful in being able to state that its various concerns have been conducted in a good degree in accordance with the design of Friends in its establishment. Meetings for worship have been regularly kept up; and the Family preserved in harmony.

"The School is continued under the immediate charge of Enoch and Lydia Bond, as Superintendents, in which they have the assistance of Stephen and Hannah Gould. Benjamin B. Hussey, Moses Mitchell, Joseph Hoag, Deborah Ramsdell, Lydia B. Allen, and Sarah Fry, have been employed as Teachers during most of the past year, with the exception of Benjamin B. Hussey, whose state of health was such in the autumn as to render it necessary for him to retire from the School. During his absence Joseph Healey was employed as an associate Teacher. Benjamin B. Hussey is again about to resume the discharge of his former duties; and Moses A. Cartland has been recently engaged as an Assistant in the Boys' department, and Phebe Burgess in the Girls'. The average number of Scholars, during the year, has been one hundred & twenty-seven.

"The accounts of the Treasurer of the School Funds, and of the Superintendent, have been received and audited, and the State of the Fund continues to be such, as to induce the Committee to propose, that Children who are members of this Yearly Meeting, continue to be admitted at 12½ dollars per quarter, and that the privilege of sending Children, free of expense, be continued, as last year.

"The Committee being clearly of the opinion, that Children would receive much greater benefit by being sent to the School for a term of time, not less than six months, Friends and Monthly Meetings are therefore advised not to send them for a shorter space of time, when it can be conveniently avoided.

"Friends are also advised not to send Boys over the age of fourteen years to the School, until they have first obtained the approbation of the School Committee, which meets at Providence the third day after the last fifth day in each month.

"On behalf of the Committee, Moses Brown,
Mary B. Allen."

Providence, 5mo. 7, 1830.

The subject of the continuance of the present, or appointment of a new Committee for the government & superintendence of the School; with the consideration of other subjects connected with the Institution, is referred to a future sitting.

Adjourned to the third hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Friends again met.

The Representatives proposed Abraham Sharman Jun. for Clerk, and George Mitchell for Assistant Clerk; which was united with and they appointed accordingly to that service.

After the discussion of some subjects, necessarily connected with the right ordering and arrangement of the business of the Nation, Friends united upon a consideration of the State of Society, and proceeded in reading the Queries and Answers direct from the several Quarterly Meetings, as far as the Fifth inclusive, and the further consideration thereof was referred to another sitting.

The Meeting was then adjourned to the 10th hour, tomorrow morning. — 3

Third-day morning, the 15th. Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to confer or correspond with Committees of the other Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, as expressed in our Minute of last year, produced the following Report to this Meeting, with the accompanying Report of the General Committee, and the Document therein referred to. —

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"Seven of your Committee appointed to meet or correspond with the Committees appointed by the other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, met those Committees in Philadelphia, in the 7th month last, and with great unanimity, this united Committee prepared & agreed to the Testimony, now to be presented to the Yearly Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Committee, Tho^s Howland,
Newport, 6m^o 15. 1830. Mary B. Allen."

which Report is satisfactory to us.

Report of the General Committee.

"To the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on the American Continent

"In conformity with the conclusion adopted by the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, the General Committee from those bodies, assembled in Philadelphia, the 27th of the 7th month, 1829.

"And being favoured to enter into feeling on the present state of our Religious Society, several important subjects obtained their weighty attention, and were satisfactorily disposed of. The concern relating to a more perfect agreement of the Disciplines of the respective Yearly Meetings, in some of their provisions, was brought into view, and a desire prevailed that every right opening might be improved, to produce more uniformity and correspondence on all important points, as the different Yearly Meetings may feel their way, in the wisdom of Truth. But it did not appear expedient to, at this time, propose any action on the occasion.

"In taking into consideration the state of our religious society, and the peculiar trials and circumstances which mark the present eventful period, it was believed that the revival of the Doctrines and Testimonies which we have always held, might tend to the advancement of the cause of Truth, and the encouragement and satisfaction of Friends. A Summary thereof, has been accordingly prepared, carefully & solidly considered; and being united with, it was directed to be forwarded to the respective Yearly Meetings. "If approved and adopted by each Meeting, it is proposed that their minute expressive of this conclusion,

1830 conclusion, and the number of copies which they may desire to have, be communicated to the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia, in order that a suitable number may be printed.

"In the consideration of this important Document, and during the whole of our deliberations, it is cause of humble and grateful acknowledgement to the great Preserver of men, that we have been favoured to feel together as brethren of the same household of Faith, and to experience much harmony and Christian condescension.

"And the following is the Document alluded to, and which, with this Report, is submitted to the Yearly Meetings.

"Signed on behalf of the General Committee, by

Philadelphia, 8mo 4th. 1829. Elisha Bates, Clerk."

See page 207. The Essay entitled, "The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the American Continent" prepared by the General Committee, composed of Committees from all the Yearly Meetings in America, was read before our Meeting of Men and Women Friends collectively assembled, and being deliberately considered, was cordially, unitedly, and fully approved, as containing a concise declaration of the Doctrines & Testimonies which have always been held by our Society. And the Clerks were directed to unite in furnishing a copy of this Minute, to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia, as proposed by the General Committee.

It is our conclusion that eight thousand copies of the Testimony be printed on account of this Yearly Meeting, for circulation among Friends and others; and the Clerk is directed to give this information to the Meeting for Sufferings in Philadelphia, and also to suggest to Friends of that Meeting, to consider the propriety of its being stereotyped, in order that all the editions of it that are published may be uniformly and correctly printed; and the further care of the subject, and the distribution of the Work, when received is referred to our Meeting for Sufferings; they taking care that the several Quarterly Meetings be supplied with a sufficient number, to furnish each Family of Friends within their limits, with a copy. — Of which, the Clerk is directed to inform them in the extracts to be sent down.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Met according to adjournment.

Having at this time the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Phebe Field and Sarah Talbut, of Scipio Monthly Meeting, State of New York, satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with their present religious engagements, were read at this sitting.

Being informed by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, that Abraham Chace had informed that Meeting of his intention of appealing from its decision in confirming the judgment of Swansey M.M. Meeting, and the manner of bearing there to prosecute his appeal, we appoint Isaac Bassett, Micajah C. Pratt, Seth Davis, Isaac Lawrence, Nathan Pope, Stephen Jones, Moses Aldrich, Walter Allen, Josiah Goddard, Caleb Nichols, Eli Varney, & Joshua Meader, to take said appeal into consideration, hear the Appellant, and the Committee of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting; and report their judgment in the case at a future sitting.

The Meeting then resumed the consideration of the State of Society, by reading the remainder of the Queries and the Answers thereto from the several Quarterly Meetings. The following Summary embraces the substance of the Answers received — viz

1st. All our Meetings for religious Worship & Discipline have been duly held, except a few instances in some small Meetings in one Quarter, and one exception in another. — Those on first day appear to have been generally attended by most Friends; while others are too remiss herein; and there is much deficiency in some, in the attendance of mid-week Meetings and those for Discipline. — The hour is pretty well observed. Mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour, some instances of sleeping excepted. Several of the accounts mention an extension of care in these deficiencies. —— 2d Love and unity are in a good degree maintained, yet there is deficiency herein, in some instances; detraction appears to be mostly guarded against, but not sufficiently so by all. — Endeavours are used to end differences when they appear. —— 3d — Many Friends are concerned to bring up those under their care in plainness, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupt conversation... and are exemplary themselves; but it is manifest that there is much remissness on the part of others in subscribing the testimonies embraced in this query. The reading of the Holy Scriptures appears to be attended to in most Friends families; but a fear is expressed, that they are not so frequently read in some as is desirable. —— 4th Friends are generally careful to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medical purposes, and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns & places of public resort, with a few exceptions in each particular, which appear to be under notice. Of late, a few instances have occurred in one Quarterly Meeting, of dealing in spirituous liquors as an article of trade, — some care has been extended. — Moderation and temperance appear to be maintained on the occasions referred to. —— 5th The circumstances of the poor are attended to. — A few instances of placing out are noticed, most of which appear to be under circumstances beyond the control of Friends. —— 6th A general care appears to be prevalent in regard to marriage; yet an increase of it is evidently called for. — Some instances of deviation are under notice. — 7th The testimonies embraced in this query appear to be generally maintained; yet there are several instances of deviation, of a military nature, which have claimed the care of Friends where they have occurred. — 8th We believe that Friends generally are careful in the several particulars of this Query, yet in several instances there has been much neglect in the proper inspection of affairs, and failure in being punctual to promises, and just in the payment of debts, which cases are under notice. —— 9th Our records are mostly attended to, yet with some deficiency in regard to births and deaths. — A few removals without Certificate are under notice. —— 10th Care is taken to deal with offenders, in a good degree as queried after; yet there is an acknowledgement in some of the accounts of a falling short in this important duty. Our Meetings, generally, appear to have been enabled to place judgment when necessary, in right authority, according to Discipline; but a fear is expressed in one account that there has been a deficiency herein.

During

During the consideration of the state of the Society, as presented by the Answers to the Queries, much pertinent and feeling counsel and advice was freely offered. We were impressively reminded, that love to God is the foundation of love to the brethren, and that where this love pervades the mind, there will be no neglect of the important duty of assembling ourselves together for the purpose of worshipping Him, from whom are all our blessings, and who calls for this, as a reasonable service at our hands; and that dwelling in this love we should be favoured to witness preservation from that estrangement of feeling towards our brethren, which once finding a place in the human mind, and being there cherished, has led, step by step, to the most awful and desolating consequences. We were at the same time, emphatically reminded of the more subtle transformation of the enemy of all good, in his appearances as an angel of light, and faithfully admonished of impending danger to those who should listen to his artful insinuations, from which increased watchfulness, humility and dedication, could alone preserve us. The subject of plainness of apparel and deportment was feelingly adverted to, as not only consistent with our profession, and right in itself, but as a means of preservation from unprofitable associations, leading the mind from the simplicity of the Truth into the spirit & maxims of the world, and the contaminating influences of fashionable life. It was adverted to, as manifesting in the Youth, not only an evidence of the care, on the one hand, of a Parent, concerned to promote the best interests of his beloved Children, and on the other, of youthful obedience and regard to the feelings of such a Parent; but, as manifesting, in many instances, the operation of Divine grace on the heart, leading to its adoption from principle. Parents were fervently entreated not to relax in the exercise of a watchful care in this and other respects, but to seek for that qualification which will increasingly enable them to take the Children by the hand, and in the impressive language of example as well as precept, call upon them to follow them, as they are endeavouring to follow Christ; that thus they may grow up as tender plants; and that instead of the Fathers, there may be the sons, rightly qualified to take their places, in a faithful discharge of the important duties that must ere long devolve upon them. The advantages of an early and of a continued acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures, by a frequent and attentive perusal of them, was feelingly dwelt upon. We were also forcibly reminded of the importance of a faithful maintenance of our testimony in regard to the use of Spirituous Liquors, particularly at a time when the public mind is becoming so fully convinced on this subject — and of bearing a faithful testimony to our belief in the peaceable nature of the Redeemer's kingdom, and against the spirit of war. On the latter subject a feeling appeal was made to our members in the younger walks of life, to evince their gratitude for the favours which are extended to them in an exemption from the burthen of military services, by great circumspection in giving no just occasion to any to call in question the sincerity of their profession, by being present as spectators at military parades, or otherwise; but that in all their conduct, they may shew to others, that they are indeed "conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms," and thus become qualified to advance the cause of Peace & Truth in the earth. Which being in unison with the concern of this Meeting, the Clerk was directed to forward transcripts of this Minute to our several Quarterly Meetings.

Our Quarterly Meetings are requested, in future, to acknowledge in their accounts to this Meeting, the receipt and disposition made, of minutes & papers transmitted to them by its direction.

William Almy, Rowland Greene, John R. Jarvis, John Wilbur, Thomas Howland, Stephen Jones, Jabez Arijah Chase, Wm. Jenkins, Joshua Jenkins, James Tucker, Stephen Gould, Ruth Ritley, Jarvis Benjamin Treadwin, Daniel Howland, Edward Cobb, John Warren, Rowland Rathbun, Samuel F. Hussey, George Mitchell, Isaac Bassett, Thomas Anthony, Caleb Nichols, and Francis Taber, were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the general state of Society, and what subjects it may be necessary to bring before the Meeting at this time, and report as occasion may require.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth-Day morning, the 16th. — Met according to adjournment. The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year, were read, and the attention thereby manifested to the various subjects that have claimed their attention, is satisfactory to this Meeting.

It being thought advisable, that new appointments should be made of Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, — and also of a Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the Boarding School — the Committee on the state of Society, appointed yesterday afternoon, is requested to propose the names of suitable Friends for those services, and lay before this Meeting at a future sitting.

Adjourned to the fifth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Friends again met.

The Committee in the case of Abraham Chase's appeal from the decision of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, produced the following report.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

We the Committee appointed to consider the appeal of Abraham Chase from the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, report, that we have attended thereto, and after giving the parties a full hearing, it is our united opinion that the judgment of said Quarterly Meeting in this case, be confirmed.

Newport, 16 of 6 mo. 1830.

Isaac Bassett,
Micajah C. Pratt,
Seth Mowry,
Isaac Lawrence,
Nathan Pope,
Stephen Jones,
Moses Aldrich,
Walter Allen,
Israel Gouldand,
Caleb Nichols,
Eli Varney,
Joshua Reader.

which report is accepted; and the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting is accordingly confirmed.

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends appointed in 1827, to visit Quarterly, Monthly, and other Meetings, and since continued, produced the following report.

"The Committee of Men & Women Friends, continued last year to visit such of the Quarterly & Monthly Meetings as may might open for, and necessity appear to require, have paid some attention to their appointment, and a part of them, number have visited several of those Meetings and endeavoured to discharge the duty which appertained to their appointment. We are united in believing that the continued care of the Yearly Meeting is still necessary to be extended, in such manner as wisdom may point out.

On behalf of the Committee,
Thomas Howland,
Hannah Gould, Jun.

Newport, 16 of 6 mo. 1830.

which being read and considered, is acceptable to us — and it being the judgment of this Meeting, that in the present state of Society, its continued care may be usefully extended to our subordinate Meetings,

the

1830. the Committee on the state of the Society, is requested to propose at another sitting, the names of such Friends as in their judgment may usefully constitute a Committee for that service.

"The Committee on the Correspondence are requested to prepare essays of such minutes or certificates of indorsement for our Friends from abroad, who are now present, as may appear necessary, and produce such essays at a future sitting; together with an essay of a Certificate of the services of our Friends George and Ann Jones, when acceptably with us — the latter in conjunction with the Women."

Adjourned to the 11th hour tomorrow morning.

Fifth day morning, the 17th. Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Indian concerns presented the following report.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee continued last year to lend such aid to the Penobscot tribe of Indians, "as way may open for, by encouraging them to avail themselves of the comforts of civilized and domestic life, and the improvement of their moral character," have paid some attention to their concerns the past year.

"The Indians have given their attention to their agricultural interests as in former years, and have been aided by a person to assist them therein, by the Government of Maine, in conformity with their treaty. The season last year being unfavourable, they did not meet with the success in the production of crops, which the increased endeavours of some of them seemed to make desirable. But no way discouraged thereby, it appears by information from the Agent (Samuel F. Hussey, who has recently, spent some time with them,) that they have made more preparation for farming the present, than any preceding year.

"The Indians have from time to time been encouraged by the Committee to give their attention to building themselves more comfortable houses than their former habits led them to the attainment of; and that their location be on such of their Islands as would accommodate their farming interests. Our object in this has been to produce the effect of domesticating their habits, and thereby to increase their comforts; and to this end we have aided them therein from time to time by such small donations from this Meeting's bounty, as in our judgment would both encourage them, and gain their confidence; and they are now possessed of about twelve one story framed houses, of two rooms each, and they have also possessed themselves of some cattle, horses, and swine.

"Some of their number speak English, but many of them can only converse in their own language. Their religious profession is the Roman Catholic, and they have now with them a Priest of that order, who has made some attempts at educating their Children; but he does not readily embrace our views of the necessity of instructing them in the English language.

On behalf of the Committee,

Nantucket 16th of 6th mo. 1830. Edwd. Cobb."

which being read & considered, is satisfactory to this Meeting, and encouraging us to believe that a further extension of care towards this people will be useful to them. Edward Cobb, John Warren, Caleb Nichols, Mathew Jones, of Vassalborough, Noah Read, Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, and Abijah Chase, are requested to give such attention to the objects the Yearly Meeting has heretofore had in view, as way may open for; and report next year.

Our

Our Treasurer is requested to pay to Edward Cobb, the sum of fifty Dollars on account of expenses that have been, or may be incurred by the Committee.

The Committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, made the following report:

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

According to appointment, your Committee for the purpose, have examined the Treasurer's Acct with the accompanying vouchers, and find a balance in his hands of $104.54, and propose that $800 be raised for 1830 — and [propose] William Almy, for Treasurer.

David Buffum,
On behalf of the Committee.

Newport, 6 mo. 15, 1830.

which being read, is accepted; and in conformity therewith, William Almy is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing; and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to forward him their respective proportions of eight hundred dollars, the sum proposed to be raised.

The interesting subject of educating, in a guarded manner, such of the Youth of this Society as are desirous of obtaining a more extended Education than has hitherto been introduced into Friends' Boarding School at Providence, having been opened before this Meeting, by a Member of the School Committee, who stated the difficulties that had occurred in finding a suitable Teacher, in a member of our Society, for such branches as it was thought desirable to introduce — the subject claimed the attention of the Meeting — and resulted in the conclusion to refer it to the deliberate consideration of the Committee now about to be appointed for the Government & Superintendence of the School — and with liberty to said Committee to proceed therein, should way open for it — they taking especial care that the principles and manners of the Children may be preserved from exposure by the introduction of a Teacher who is not a Member, should they be under the necessity of employing such an one.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Met by adjournment.

Moses Brown,	Benj.a Tucker,	Thomas Jones,	Cromwell Barnard,
William Almy,	Stephen Gould,	Clarke Shove,	George Mitchell,
Daniel Rowland,	David Buffum,	Com.s Howland,	George Howland,
Rowland Greene,	Francis Taber,	Thomas Arnold of Boston	Asa.s Tucker
Edward Cobb,	Benjamin Mott,		Harvey Chase,
William Slade,	Jon.a Dennis,	Silas Earl,	Jon.a Nichols,
Nicholas Congdon,	John Brown	Moses Tarnum,	Wm Mitchell,
Samuel H. Hussey,	William Cobb,	Abab Arnold,	Stephen Jones, 3d
Elijah Chase,	Thomas Howland,	Isaac Bassett,	Joseph Davis
John Wilbur,	Stephen H. Chase,	Ebenr Pope	Isaac R. Telford
William Jenkins,	Rowland Rathbun,	Thomas Anthony,	John B. Dockray,
Walter Allen,	John Osborne,	Wm Reynolds,	Edward Wing,
Joseph Metcalf,	Daniel Clapp,	Josiah Jones,	Moses Aldrich
James Tucker,	David Rodman	Saml B. Tobey,	
John Tarnum,	Abr.m Shearman, Jr.	Daniel Johnson,	

being proposed by the Committee on the State of the Society, to which this subject was referred, are appointed, to constitute, with the addition of such others as may be appointed by the Women's Meeting, a Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence, for the year ensuing, — and to act thereon on behalf of this Meeting, agreeably to the authority and direction heretofore and now given to such Committees.

The

1830. The Committee on the State of Society, further report that the following Friends should constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, viz:

Moses Brown,	Cornelius Howland	Daniel Johnson,	Samuel F. Hussey,
William Almy,	Francis Taber,	James N. Fry,	David Rodman,
Rowland Greene,	William Cobb,	Nicholas Congdon,	Perez Peck,
Thomas Howland,	Joshua Meader,	John Osborne,	William Reynolds,
Benjamin Freeborn,	Thomas Anthony	John R. Davis,	Prince Gardner,
Obadiah Davis,	John Warren,	William Jenkins	Moses Farnum
James Tucker,	Matthew Purinton,	Jonathan Pennit	Walter Allen
Rowland Robbins,	Joshua Jenkins,	Stephen Gould,	Daniel Howland
Edward Cobb,	George Mitchell,	David Buffum,	Moses Starkie,
Abram Sherman, Jr.	John Farnum	William Slade,	Joseph Metcalf,
Stephen Jones,	John Wilbur,	Abijah Chase,	Benjamin Fry,
Isaac Bassett,	John Brown,	Oliver Chase,	
Silas Newhall,	Stephen A. Chase,	Caleb Nichols,	

which is united with, and they are accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing.

During the deliberations of this Meeting on the interesting subjects that have occupied its attention, a concern was extensively prevailed, that all our Members may be increasingly impressed with the importance of a faithful maintenance of the principles and testimonies of the Society, and of a life and conduct corresponding with the purity of our profession; that we may thus be enabled, in a day of peculiar trial, to witness the blessing of preservation, in the unity of the Spirit, and in the bond of peace.—— And the consideration of the subject having been revived, by the reading of the report of the Committee heretofore appointed to visit our subordinate Meetings, it is the judgment of this Meeting, that a continued watchful care may be usefully extended to them in the promotion of these objects,— wherefore we appoint,— William Almy, Rowland Greene, John Wilbur, Benjamin Freeborn, Thomas Jones, Edward Cobb, Samuel F. Hussey, Thomas Howland, John Warren, Abraham Sherman, Jun^r, William Jenkins, Francis Taber, George Mitchell, Isaac Bassett, Joshua Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, and Caleb Nichols,—— to unite with a similar Committee of the Women's Meeting, in visiting such of the Quarterly, Monthly, and particular Meetings, as may may open for, (and Individuals should occasion require,) and to endeavour to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles and testimonies, by imparting such counsel and advice as they may respectively stand in need of, and the Committee be enabled in best wisdom to afford,—— and report to this Meeting next year.

Adjourned to the 8th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth day morning, the 18th.— Met, pursuant to adjournment.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Ireland, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana, being read, were approved, and directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such verbal alterations as may appear necessary, signed by him on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings.

The Clerk was directed to annex to the minutes to be forwarded to the Quarterly Meetings, the additional information, relative to Correspondents now received from New York and Baltimore Yearly Meetings.— Also to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes, not already otherwise provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

[illegible]

Women's — Committee to visit 2 M.Ms &c.

Abigail Robinson
Anna A Jenkins
Hannah Dennis
Alice Rathbone
Elizabeth Parker
Mary B. Allen
Lydia Pearl
Alice Chase
Elizabeth Wing
Avis Keene
Rhoda Haviland
Hannah Collins
Sarah Tucker
Hannah Doke, of Vassaboro.
Hannah Gould, Jr.
Ruth A Sassett
Abigail Nichols

The Clerk was also directed to furnish the Friends from abroad, now with us with minutes agreeable to Essays proposed.

The following Certificate of the religious services of our beloved Friends, George and Ann Jones was approved, in concurrence with the Women's Meeting, and directed to be forwarded by the Clerk, viz:

"To the Monthly Meeting, of Morley, the Quarterly Meeting of Cheshire and Staffordshire, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers & Elders, held in London.

"This Meeting being informed that our beloved Friends George and Ann Jones, have a prospect that their religious services are nearly closed in this country, and that they have an expectation of being ere long at liberty to return to their native land, — it seems right for us to inform you that they very acceptably attended this Yearly Meeting in the year 1827, and again in the year 1829, and visited a few Meetings belonging thereto. In the exercise of their gifts in the Ministry, they were enabled to hold forth a clear testimony to the doctrines of the Christian religion; and faithfully to warn those to whom they ministered against the spirit of infidelity, which had in a peculiar manner made great inroads in the Society of Friends in some sections of this country.

"With feelings of unity & sympathy, and sincere desires for their preservation and safe return to their Friends in their native land, with the reward of peace, when their arduous services shall be accomplished, we remain, Your Friends, Brethren, & Sisters," [Signed &c.]

The subject of marrying in the kindred by Affinity, having been brought under the view of this Meeting, received its solid & due deliberate consideration; and it is concluded, that the construction of our Yearly Meeting, as particularly defined in the year 1773, [namely, That our members be not allowed to marry a deceased wife's sister, or a deceased husband's brother,] shall hereafter be considered as the construction to be given to our present Discipline. — — — — — — — With which the Women's Meeting unites. — And the Clerk is directed to forward copies of this Minute to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, to be inserted in the Books of Discipline in their possession.

Feeling it to be cause of thankful acknowledgement to the Dispenser of every good, that through the various sittings of this Yearly Meeting, we have been enabled to act upon the important concerns of Society that have come before us, in much unity of counsel, harmony, & brotherly condescension, — we conclude, purposing, to meet again on this Island, in the Sixth month next.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

Note.

*We are informed by New York Yearly Meeting, that the following Friends are appointed Correspondents, for the purpose of authenticating Certificates, in the place of Friends deceased, viz. James Birdsall, of Marlboro' M.o Meeting, Cornwall D.o Meeting. Address, Newburgh, Orange Co.e N.Y. David Aldrich, of East Hoosack M.o Meeting, Easton D.o Meeting. — South Adams, Berkshire Co.e Mass.tts James Robson, of Hartland M.o N.J. Farmington D.o N.J. — Johnson's Creek, Niagara Co.e N.Y.

— By Baltimore Yearly Meeting — that for Cunhowder M.o M.d, Jesse Sackett, John Scott — for Deer Creek M.o M.d, Samuel Worthington, Elisha Cook — for Nottingham and Little Britain M.o M.d, Thomas Waring, Joseph Balance, Jun.r are appointed for Correspondents, in addition to those appointed last year; one of whom is to sign in addition to the usual signatures of the Clerks, all minutes and certificates issued by our Monthly or Quarterly Meetings for members or ministers of our religious Society.

1830 At a Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends held in London by adjournments, from the 20th of the 5th month to the 29th of the same inclusive, 1829. [See page 187.]

This Meeting has been introduced into a feeling of much sympathy and brotherly love for our brethren on the American Continent. We have heard with deep concern and sorrow, of the close trials to which they have been subjected by the diffusion of anti-christian doctrines among them; and we consider it to be a duty to disclaim, and we hereby do disclaim, all connection, as a religious society, with any Meetings for the purpose of worship or discipline, which have been established, or which are upheld, by those who have embraced such anti-christian doctrines.

And in order to prevent any misapprehension as to our views, we feel ourselves called upon, at this time, to avow our belief in the inspiration and divine authority of the Old and New Testament.

We further believe, that the promise made after the transgression of our first parents, in the consequences of whose fall all the posterity of Adam are involved, [a] "that the seed of the woman should bruise the head of the serpent," and the declaration unto Abraham, [b] "In thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed," had a direct reference to the coming in the flesh of the Lord Jesus Christ. To Him, also, did the Prophet Isaiah bear testimony; when he declared, [c] "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace: of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." And again, the same Prophet spoke of him when he said, [d] "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted; but he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." The same blessed Redeemer is emphatically denominated by the Prophet Jeremiah, [e] "The Lord our Righteousness."

At that period, and in that miraculous manner, which God in his perfect wisdom saw fit, the promised Messiah appeared personally upon the earth, when [f] "He took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham." He [g] "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." [h] "Having finished the work that was given him to do, he gave himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God." [k] "He tasted death for every man." [l a] "He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

[m] "We have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." [n] "He passed into the heavens; and [o] "being the brightness of the glory of God, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;" and [p] "ever liveth to make intercession for us."

[q] "It is by the Lord Jesus Christ that the world will be judged in righteousness." [r] "He is the mediator of the new covenant;" [s] "the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature: for by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible & invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist." [t] "In him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." and to him did the Evangelist bear testimony when he said [u] "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

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In him was life; and the life was the light of men." He "was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

Our Blessed Lord himself spoke of His perpetual dominion & power in his church, when he said: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life:" and, when describing the spiritual food which he bestoweth on the true believers, He declared, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." He spoke also of this saving grace, bestowed on those who come in faith unto Him, when he said: "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

Our Religious Society, from its earliest establishment to the present day, has received these most important doctrines of Holy Scripture in their plain and obvious acceptation; and we do not acknowledge as in fellowship with us, as a Christian Community, any body of religious professors which does not thus accept them, or which openly receives and accredits as Ministers, those who attempt to invalidate any of these doctrines which we esteem as essential parts of the Christian Religion.

It is the earnest desire of this Meeting, that all who profess our name, may so live, and so walk before God, as that they may know these sacred truths to be blessed to them individually. We desire that, as the mere profession of sound Christian doctrine will not avail to the salvation of the soul, all may attain to a living efficacious faith, which, through the power of the Holy Ghost, "bringeth forth fruit unto holiness: the end whereof is everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord." "Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."

Signed in, by order, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid, by

Josiah Forster, Clerk.

Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held in Rhode Island from the 13th to the 18th, inclusive, of 6th month, 1830.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

We have received at this time your acceptable Epistle, addressed to us last year; also the general Epistle issued by your Meeting at that time; and have been comforted and edified by the reading of them. The concern manifested in these Epistolary communications, for the welfare of the Church, and the support and encouragement of the Brethren, individually, does, we can feelingly testify, tend to strengthen us in the maintenance of our faith and in the discharge of our important duties. We have also received a Minute issued by your Meeting, declarations of your belief in regard to some of the fundamental truths of the Christian religion, and your unity with any bodies of religious professors which do not acknowledge those truths; — which was fully united with, and directed to be placed on our Records. [x] [x For which, see preceding article, commencing page 198.]

During the various sittings of this Meeting, we humbly believe we have been favoured to experience a degree of the protecting and directing power of the Great Head of the Church, and we feel bound reverently to acknowledge

1830 acknowledge this gracious support which has preserved us during our deliberations on some very important subjects that have come before us in much unity and brotherly love.

An Essay entitled, "The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the American Continent," prepared by the General Committee, composed of Committees from all the Yearly Meetings in America, which convened in Philadelphia last Seventh month, was one of the interesting subjects that claimed our attention, and being deliberately considered, it was very fully and cordially approved as being a compendium of our ancient Doctrines & Testimonies and having now been sanctioned by all the Yearly Meetings in this country, it will be published and receive general distribution.

It has been very satisfactory to us to have the company of many of our younger brethren, who have manifested much interest in the business that has occupied the attention of the Meeting; and we trust that not a few among them have been brought to bow their necks to the yoke of Christ. Oh! that these, wherever situated, may be brought to feel the importance of early giving up to serve the Lord; that so they may come up as standard bearers and supporters of the Truth, and being careful to abide under the direction of the Shepherd of Israel find their strength to increase, and their peace to be abundantly multiplied.

In reviewing the state of Society as presented by the answers to the Queries, we have cause to lament deficiences that exist among us, but at the same time have been comforted in believing that there was a living concern with many of our members to support inviolate the doctrines & testimonies of our Society; and during the progress of this review we were brought to be made renewedly sensible of the excellency of our Church Discipline, and the great blessing that it has proved to us as a people; and concerned that Friends may not turn from it, or in any way manifest a want of confidence in it, but carefully maintain its beautiful order; so will they find that its provisions are founded in wisdom.

It is with humble thankfulness we inform you that our Yearly Meeting continues as a body, free from any interruptions, arising from those unsound doctrines which have spread as a pestilence over some parts of our Continent; and we have reason to hope, that being warned by the devastation that has been made around us, our members generally, have become increasingly engaged not only to ascertain what the true doctrines of the Gospel are, but to live under the influence & efficiency and excellency.

With the renewed salutation of love, we are, your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Junr Clerk.

P. S. — The Clerk is directed, when "the Testimony" referred to, shall have been published, to forward a copy of it for the acceptance of your Meeting.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received at this time; and by the reading of it you have been brought afresh to our remembrance. We have also received Epistles from London, and from the several Yearly Meetings on our Continent; and we have felt renewedly convinced, that by these epistolary salutations the bonds of fellowship are strengthened; and we are brought more and more to feel ourselves to be one people, engaged in the support of the same precious cause.

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This Meeting has been fully attended, and in its various sittings we have had cause to believe that the great Head of the Church has been pleased measurably to own us. We are humbly thankful in stating, that we are yet preserved united as one body, amidst the divisions that have taken place around us, and though we rejoice at this, it is with trembling, knowing, that it is necessary to watch and pray continually, to resist the enemy of all good, who appeareth not only as a roaring lion, but as a subtle twining serpent, and who can transform himself into the appearance of an angel of light.

We have at this time the company of many of our youth, whose becoming deportment and manifest interest in the concerns of the Church, have given encouraging evidence that they are under the forming hand of Truth. We are earnestly solicitous that they may all be early brought to understand the fundamental truths of the Gospel, and with thankful, believing hearts, receive them in simplicity, not seeking to exalt human nature and trusting to their own strength, but humbly acknowledging their entire dependence on the mercies of God through Jesus Christ our Lord. The subject of extending to this interesting part of Society the means of acquiring useful learning, without being exposed to contaminating associations with the world, has often heretofore, as well as at the present time, claimed our serious attention, and the Boarding School, which has been continued for several years under the immediate direction of a Committee from this Meeting, has, we believe, been a source of much usefulness in this respect.

Among other subjects that have claimed our deliberation, has been that of an Essay, entitled, "The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the American Continent," prepared by a Committee from each of the Yearly Meetings in America, which convened at Philadelphia in the 7th month of last year. After solid consideration, this Document received the full and united approbation of this Meeting; and having now been approved by all the Yearly Meetings in our country, it will be published, and generally distributed in the families of Friends.

And now, Brethren, desiring that we may all be enabled to fight the good fight and keep the faith, we remain, with the salutation of Gospel Love, Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, Jun.r Clerk.

P.S. The Clerk is directed, when "the Testimony", referred to, shall have been published, to forward a copy of it for the acceptance of your Meeting.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

In humble gratitude to the Author of all our sure mercies, we have been brought to acknowledge a sense of his presence, in assembling together at this time. Our Meeting has been large, and we have been favoured to transact the various concerns that have come before it, in much brotherly love & harmony. Surely where there is love to God, there will & must be "love to the brethren," which is declared to be the bridge of true discipleship.

Your Epistle of the 4th month last has been received & read to our encouragement, and we have been brought to rejoice with you, in your knowledge of a succession of Standard bearers in the great cause of Truth. In taking a view of the state of ~~the State of~~ our Society at this time, we have had to lament the deficiences that exist, and a living concern has been raised for their removal;

1830 removal; yet we have cause to believe that there are many among us, and that some of the rising generation are of the number, who are endeavouring to maintain our ancient doctrines and testimonies.

In the difficulties and severe trials through which it has been our lot to pass, you have had our near and heart felt sympathy; but we believe if these things are permitted to work out their proper effect, they will have a tendency to incite us to a life of self-denial, and to warn against indulging in empty speculations in religion. May we then thank the Lord for our preservation thus far, and take courage; for though many may fall on the right hand and on the left, yet the foundation of God standeth sure.

The subject of education we perceive is claiming your serious attention. The time we think has come when Friends are called upon to provide a way for our members to qualify themselves for more extensive usefulness, without being exposed to the contaminating influence of improper associations. — —

It evidently appears to us, that the more the human mind becomes acquainted with the wonderful works of our Creator, the more we are brought to a sense of our own nothingness, and have cause to acknowledge his wisdom and goodness.

The document prepared by the General Committee from all the Yearly Meetings in America, was read in our Meeting of Men & Women Friends, collectively assembled, and called forth a general expression of unity and cordial approbation; and we have directed eight thousand copies to be printed for distribution.

With fervent desires, dear Brethren, that we may hold fast the profession of our faith, that in the end we may obtain the crown,

We remain, Your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, Jun.r Clerk.

To New-York.

Dear Friends,

We are again assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and have been strengthened by the reading of the Epistles from our Brethren of the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, and from those of London and Ireland. We have indeed renewedly felt that we are all brethren, united in the bonds of Christian fellowship, and have been made to rejoice, with those who rejoice as on the banks of deliverance, and to mourn with those who mourn for the desolations within our borders. But, dear Friends, let us be steadfast in the faith without wavering; keeping constantly in view, "the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." And may we be favoured to keep on the simple ground of the Gospel, acknowledging the goodness and mercy of our gracious Creator, in the bountiful provision He has made for us, that we might be saved with an everlasting salvation, through his dear Son, our blessed Lord. The doctrines of the Gospel, as contained in the Holy Scriptures, and believed in by us, recognize this mercy to have been manifested in the character of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of men; and may we all continue to believe in these glorious manifestations of Divine power and mercy, and thus experience preservation on substantial ground; guarding our minds against the adoption of speculative opinions and metaphysical reasonings on subjects too great

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for the human mind to grasp. But rather let us, in the obedience of faith, receive the proffered mercy of God through Jesus Christ our Lord; in the way of his coming. For if we are in this one faith, we shall be one in practice, and when assembled on occasions like the present, to transact the important concerns of Society, we shall prefer one another in love, and alike feel desirous of keeping in our proper places. — Diffident of our own, we shall be tender of the opinions of others, and thus be preserved in the bond of unity; and in our respective neighbourhoods, however lonely may be our allotment, we shall feel that we are united in the bonds of Christian fellowship with our brethren, wherever they may be.

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and we have cause gratefully to acknowledge, has been owned by the great Head of the Church, so that we have been enabled to transact the important concerns of Society with great unanimity, and in the spirit of love and condescension. The "Testimony" prepared by the Committees of the several Yearly Meetings, in the 7th month last year, was read in, and approved by this Meeting; there being a general expression of unity with it by Friends of the various ages present; and the solemn covering which was felt to be over us through the whole sitting, was humbling, and the language, "It is the Lord's work," was the ascription in many minds.

The subject of enabling the children of Friends to obtain a more extended education was introduced to our consideration, and our Boarding School Committee were encouraged to procure Teachers to effect this desirable object.

We are your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the tenth month last has been received and read. We have also received similar communications from each of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and from our Friends of London and Dublin. We believe that a correspondence of this kind, if maintained in the Truth, tends to unite more closely, distant brethren of the same Faith.

Although trials of a peculiar character have been permitted of latter time to assail the Society of Friends in this country, and although these afflictions have been truly grievous to bear, yet there is cause of humble gratitude to Him, whose mercies are still continued to be over all his works, in that he has thus far preserved a remnant, who have not denied the Lord that bought them; who are engaged to confess Him before men, and who through obedience to the operations of his enlightening and redeeming power have become qualified to advocate His glorious cause, and engaged to promote His peaceable reign in the hearts of their fellow men. — These, wherever situated, become one another's helpmen in the Lord, and are at times enabled to rejoice together in being counted worthy to suffer for his Name's sake.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have been comforted in witnessing the interest that has been taken by many of our young Friends in the concerns of Society, which have been transacted with much unity. Among the important subjects that have claimed our consideration has been the "Testimony," prepared by the united labours of the delegates from our respective

1830. "—" portion Yearly Meetings, commenced at Philadelphia in the seventh month last. It was read and being deliberately considered, was fully approved as a compendium of the principles of our Society from its first establishment to the present time. The Report of our Boarding School Committee has been received, by which it appears that that Institution is in a prosperous condition. Several valuable Friends from distant Yearly Meetings have been with us, & their advice and Gospel labours have been truly acceptable.

With the salutation, we remain, Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf, of said Meeting, by,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the 5th month last was received and read at this time. We were thankful to feel from its interesting contents, that there was preserved within your borders a living remnant, whose concern it is to hold up the Ensign of Truth and righteousness, in a land where the evils and oppressions of Slavery exist.

We have often, from the commencement of our correspondence with your Meeting, in the year 1804, been interested with your communications, and expressed the same on several occasions in our Epistles; but none of them has more closely engaged our minds in sympathy with you than the last, particularly, as it informs us that you are looking forward to a dissolution of your body, as a Yearly Meeting. We have no doubt that it was originally instituted and set up in the wisdom and power of God, and we cannot but trust, that the same wisdom which led to its beginning, will mercifully condescend to direct in its close, should this measure appear to be demanded, from your peculiar circumstances & situation.

It has often been consoling and encouraging to us, in reflecting that there has been preserved among you, those who have adhered to sound Christian Faith, and that those evils and divisions that have so sorely afflicted other portions of our Society, have not been permitted to make an inroad on the good order of your Yearly Meeting.

Our Meeting has had many interesting subjects before it, and the harmony that has prevailed in the various discussions to which they have given rise, has been truly encouraging and strengthening to our minds. The Testimonies prepared by the Committee from the different Yearly Meetings on this Continent, has been solidly considered and fully approved. Our Boarding School at Providence continues in an hopeful state, and we trust will prove a blessing to the present and succeeding generations, and we think the good seed has been hopefully sown in the hearts of some of our Youth that have had the benefit of the care and instruction that are there extended. A number of them from different parts, have attended at this time, whose countenances, and sacred travail, has been strengthening to their elder Brethren. In the love of the Gospel, we remain Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by,

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To South Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Under a renewed feeling of brotherly love, and a grateful sense of the continued favour of a gracious Creator in enabling us to meet together in this our Annual Assembly, we salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the 11th month last. We have also received and read Corresponding Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings of Friends, and the General printed one from London. We believe this mode of information and interchange of feeling, has been and continues to be the means of strengthening the bonds of mutual love, and uniting our endeavours for the promotion of the cause of Truth.

Our Meeting has been as large as in former years, and we have thankfully to acknowledge that the overshadowing wing of Divine regard has been felt to be near, and under its benign influence we have been enabled to transact the business which has come before us in condescension and harmony. In the answers to the Queries from our Quarterly Meetings, we have had cause of sorrow to observe in some instances a falling short in faithfully supporting our Christian testimonies, on which account much judicious advice and solid counsel was feelingly imparted. The important Document, entitled, "The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the American Continent," was read, deliberately considered, and with entire unanimity, approved by both our Men's and Women's Meeting collectively assembled.

The continued oppression of the African race in your Government as well as elsewhere, is cause of deep regret, and though we are separated by distance from this scene of suffering, yet we continue to feel much for this injured people, and hope that the enormity of the practice of holding our fellow beings in bondage, may more and more be seen in its true light. We sympathise with you in your arduous labours for their emancipation, and unite in desire that the Friends of humanity every where may be enabled effectually to plead their cause; that so in time the voice of the oppressor may cease, and the groans of the oppressed be no longer heard.

With feelings of Gospel love, we salute you, and are

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid,

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends.

In our annual Meeting at this time we have been renewedly made to believe, that the great Head of the Church still deigns to own our assemblies, and will, as we are careful to put our trust in Him, qualify us to transact the important concerns that come before us, in a manner acceptable to Him.

Our Meeting has been large, and the company and Gospel labours of some worthy Friends from abroad, one of whom is from your Yearly Meeting, has confirmed us in the belief, that we are one with you in Truth, and have one Head. We have received your acceptable Epistle of the 9th month last.

1830. last, which has been owned to our satisfaction, and which brought us feelingly to sympathize with you in the various trials you have had to pass through; and we are comforted in believing, that as your trust and confidence is placed upon Christ Jesus our blessed Redeemer, there will be those preserved among you as watchmen on the walls of Zion, who will be able to warn against the most subtle transformation of a crooked twisting adversary.

Through our several sittings at this time we have been enabled to transact the business that has engaged our attention, in much brotherly love and condescension, and have reason to believe, that notwithstanding the various deficiencies that exist among some of our members, and which have been cause of painful exercise, a living concern is still felt by many, that the ancient doctrines of our Society, as held forth by our worthy predecessors, be faithfully maintained. The Testimony of Friends, prepared by the General Committee from the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, was read, & after a season of solid deliberation thereon, it called forth an expression of unity & approbation from the aged and the youth, seldom if ever witnessed on other occasions.

We are gratified in learning, that your concern for the Indian natives has not relaxed. Since our Meeting last year, we have presented a Memorial to Congress on behalf of some of the Southern tribes, petitioning that the Faith of our Government may be preserved inviolate towards them.

Desiring your prayers for our preservation, we close with the salutation of love, and remain Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid, by

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clk

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Permitted again to meet in this our annual assembly, to transact the business of Society, we have cause humbly to acknowledge the Lords goodness, who, in the riches of his mercy, is still disposed to be with his people, being experienced to be round about them as a wall of defence, against the wiles of an unwearied enemy who is ever seeking to lay waste the Lords heritage.

Our Meeting has been largely attended, and during its deliberations we have been favoured to experience much unanimity and brotherly love.

The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the American Continent has been fully united with in this Meeting. It having now passed through all the Yearly Meetings in America, and been very cordially approved, we are confirmed in the belief that the hand of the Lord is in it.

In recurring to the state of Society as exhibited by the accounts from our subordinate Meetings we have been painfully affected with deficiencies in support of some of our important testimonies, in divers instances, yet consolation has been found in believing that there are many among us to whom these testimonies are dear, and who are concerned to hold fast the profession of their faith, without wavering.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 10th month last, has been received, also one from each of the other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

The interest you have taken in the concerns of the people of colour, is grateful to our feelings; though remotely situated, we are not unmindful of their sufferings. We also perceive with satisfaction, that you are still engaged to improve the condition of the Indians. The attention of this Meeting is continued to the few remaining of the Penobscot tribe.

By the Report of the Committee who have had the care of our Boarding School, we have reason to believe, that that Institution continues to afford satisfaction to the Society.

With the salutation of love, we are, Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid, by

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held in the sixth mo. 1830.

During the consideration of the state of the Society, as presented by the Answers to the Queries, much pertinent and feeling counsel and advice was freely offered. We were impressively reminded, that love to God is the foundation of love to the brethren, and that where this love pervades the mind, there will be no neglect of the important duty of assembling ourselves together for the purpose of worshipping Him, from whom are all our blessings, and who calls for this, as a reasonable service at our hands; and that dwelling in this love, we should be favoured to witness preservation from that estrangement of feeling towards our brethren, which once finding a place in the human mind, and being there cherished, has led, step by step, to the most awful and desolating consequences. We were at the same time, emphatically reminded of the more subtle transformations of the enemy of all good, in his appearances as an angel of light, and faithfully admonished of impending danger to those who should listen to his artful insinuations; from which increased watchfulness, humility, and dedication, could alone preserve us.—The subject of plainness of apparel and deportment was feelingly adverted to, as not only consistent with our profession, and right in itself, but as a means of preservation from unprofitable associations, leading the mind from the simplicity of the Truth into the spirit and maxims of the world, and the contaminating influences of fashionable life. It was adverted to, as manifesting in the Youth, not only an evidence of the care, on the one hand, of a Parent, concerned to promote the best interests of his beloved Children, and on the other, of youthful obedience and regard to the feelings of such a parent; but, as manifesting, in many instances, the operation of Divine grace on the heart, leading to its adoption from principle. Parents were fervently entreated not to relax in the exercise of a watchful care, in this and other respects, but to seek for that qualification which will increasingly enable them to take the children by the hand, and in the impressive language of example as well as precept, call upon them, to follow them as they are endeavouring to follow Christ; that thus they may grow up as tender plants; and that instead of the fathers, there may be the sons, rightly qualified to take their places, in a faithful discharge of the important duties that must ere long devolve upon them.—The advantages of an early and of a continued acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures, by a frequent and attentive perusal of them, was feelingly dwelt upon.——We were also forcibly reminded of the importance of a faithful maintenance of our testimony in regard to the use of spirituous liquors, particularly at a time when the public mind is becoming so fully convinced on this subject—and of bearing a faithful testimony to our belief in the peaceable nature of the Redeemer's kingdom, and against the spirit of war. On the latter subject, a feeling appeal was made to our members in the younger walks of life, to evince their gratitude for the favours which are extended to them in an exemption from the burthen of military services, by great circumspection in giving no just occasion to any, to call in question the sincerity of their profession, by being present as spectators at military parades, or otherwise; but that in all their conduct, they may shew to others, that they are indeed "conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms," and thus become qualified to advance the cause of Peace and Truth in the earth.—Which being in unison with the concern of this Meeting, the Clerk was directed to forward transcripts of this Minute to our several Quarterly Meetings.

We are informed by New-York Yearly Meeting, that the following Friends are appointed Correspondents, for the purpose of authenticating Certificates, in the place of Friends deceased, viz:

James Birdsall, of Marlborough Mo. Meeting, Cornwall Quarterly Meeting—address, *Newburgh, Orange Co. N. Y.*
David Aldrich, of East Hoosack Mo. Meeting, Easton Quarterly Meeting—address, *South Adams, Berkshire Co. Mass.*
James Robson, of Hartland Mo. Meeting, Farmington Quarterly Meeting—address, *Johnson's Creek, Niagara Co. N.Y.*

——— By Baltimore Yearly Meeting,—that it has appointed,

For Gunpowder Mo. Meeting, Jesse Scott, John Scott;
Deer Creek Mo. Meeting, Samuel Worthington, Elisha Cook;
Nottingham and Little Britain Mo. Meeting, Thomas Waring, Joseph Balance, jun.

as Correspondents, in addition to those appointed last year; one of whom is to sign, in addition to the usual signatures of the Clerks, all minutes and certificates issued by their Monthly or Quarterly Meetings for members or ministers of our religious society.

Our Quarterly Meetings are requested, in future, to acknowledge in their accounts to the Yearly Meeting, the receipt, and disposition made, of minutes and papers transmitted to them by its direction.

It was concluded to raise eight hundred dollars for the service of the ensuing year, and the several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward their respective proportions of that sum to our Treasurer.

Copied, by direction, from the Minutes of the Meeting aforesaid, by

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island,

from the 13th to the 18th, inclusive, of the sixth month, 1830.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, and being satisfactory to this Meeting, copies thereof were directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

The Boarding School Committee report, That they have during the past year, endeavoured to promote the objects confided to their care by the Yearly Meeting, in the superintendence of the Institution; and are thankful in being able to state, that its various concerns have been conducted in a good degree in accordance with the design of Friends in its establishment. Meetings for worship have been regularly kept up; and the family preserved in harmony.

The School is continued under the immediate charge of Enoch and Lydia Breed, as Superintendents, in which they have the assistance of Stephen and Hannah Gould.—Benjamin B. Hussey, Moses Mitchell, Joseph Hoag, Deborah Ramsdell, Lydia B. Allen, and Sarah Fry, have been employed as Teachers, during most of the past year, with the exception of Benjamin B. Hussey, whose state of health was such in the autumn, as to render it necesary for him to retire from the School. During his absence Joseph Healey was employed as an associate Teacher. Benjamin B. Hussey is again about to resume the discharge of his former duties; and Moses A. Cartland has been recently engaged as an Assistant in the Boys' department, and Phebe Burgess in the Girls'.

The average number of scholars, during the year, has been one hundred and twenty-seven.

The accounts of the Treasurer of the School Fund, and of the Superintendent, have been received, and audited, and the state of the Fund continues to be such, as to induce the Committee to propose that Children who are members of this Yearly Meeting, continue to be admitted at twelve and a half dollars per quarter, and that the privilege of sending Children, free of expense, be continued, as last year.

The Committee being clearly of the opinion, that Children would receive much greater benefit by being sent to the School for a term of time not less than six months, Friends and Monthly Meetings are therefore advised not to send them for a shorter space of time, when it can be conveniently avoided.

Friends are also advised not to send Boys over the age of fourteen years to the School, until they have first obtained the approbation of the School Committee, which meets at Providence the third day after the last fifth day in each month.

On behalf of the Committee,

MOSES BROWN.
MARY B. ALLEN.

Providence, 5 mo. 7, 1830.

At the Yearly Meeting aforesaid,

An Essay, entitled "The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the American Continent," prepared by the General Committee, composed of Committees from all the Yearly Meetings in America, (which convened in Philadelphia, in the 7th month last,) was read before our Meeting of Men and Women Friends, collectively assembled, and being deliberately considered, was cordially, unitedly, and fully approved, as embracing a concise declaration of the doctrines and testimonies which have always been held by our Society. This Document having now been approved by all the Yearly Meetings of Friends in this country, the Clerk was directed to add to this minute, in the extracts to be sent down, that the necessary arrangements have been made for printing it, and that the several Quarterly Meetings will be supplied, by the Meeting for Sufferings, with a sufficient number of copies to furnish one to each family of Friends within their respective limits.

The subject of marrying in the kindred by Affinity, having been brought under the view of this Meeting, received its solid and deliberate consideration; and it is concluded that the construction of our Yearly Meeting, as particularly defined in the year 1773, [namely, That our members be not allowed to marry a deceased wife's sister, or a deceased husband's brother,] shall hereafter be considered as the construction to be given to our present Discipline.

The Clerk is directed to forward copies of this Minute to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, to be inserted in the Books of Discipline in their possession

Copied, by direction, from the Minutes of said Meeting, by

The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the Continent of America.

The General Committee, appointed by the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on the American Continent, having met to take into consideration the important interests and common welfare of the Society, and been brought into exercise under a sense of the peculiar trials in which we are involved, have felt a united engagement for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness, in the earth. Our worthy predecessors, when first gathered to be a people, were enabled to hold up to the world a clear testimony to the doctrines of the Gospel, and to illustrate their reception by a practical application of them to their lives and conversations. Thus they became preachers of righteousness and shining examples of the Christian virtues. The spirit of intolerance which unhappily prevailed in that day, subjected them to most cruel persecution. But supported by Divine power, they boldly maintained the doctrines they were called to proclaim; & neither the hostility, nor the friendships or favors of the world, could drive them from their profession, or draw them into any compromise of principle. Knowing that the doctrines of the Gospel have been revealed to be believed and thus to influence the feelings and conduct of men — like the primitive believers, they preached those doctrines with a boldness proportioned to their importance, and tested the firmness of their faith thro' deep sufferings. The demonstration of the Spirit and power accompanying their ministry, and the uprightness and purity of their lives, had a reaching influence on those around them — their numbers were increased, and relief from persecution, in a great measure, was finally obtained.

But in the enjoyment of ease many of the successors of those faithful standard bearers, not submitting to the humbling and sanctifying power of Truth, became superficial professors of spiritual religion. And in this state of superficial profession, however it is to be deplored, it is not strange that some should not have been properly instructed in the fundamental doctrines of the Christian religion, or sensible of their importance. For as it was the Spirit and power of God, that in past ages revealed those fundamentals, and still leads the mind to them, in the way of experimental knowledge; so, without the influence of that Spirit and power, neither will their nature be clearly understood, nor their importance be duly appreciated.

Thus, through a combination of causes, the way became gradually prepared for the introduction of speculative opinions, under specious colorings. — Doctrines repugnant to the first principles of the Gospel of Christ have been propagated in the garb of refined spirituality, and the writings of our early Friends perverted to support those views. An intimate connection with this defection in principle, through the influence of the "accuser of the brethren," unfounded jealousies were infused, and false accusations raised against meetings and individuals. — Domination and abuse of power, in the way of imposition and oppression, were represented as characterizing the proceedings of meetings. A feeling of alienation was induced, prejudices were raised, the bond of Gospel fellowship was broken, and an organized opposition to the order of Society ensued: and thus a deeply affecting schism has been produced in

1830 in many parts of the Society. Within the limits of the Yearly Meetings New York Philadelphia, Baltimore, Ohio and Indiana, meetings claiming the character of the Society of Friends are held, though separated from the body, both in doctrine and discipline. But it is cause of thankfulness, that the Yearly Meetings of Friends in all those places are sustained, and hold religious fellowship with one another, and with the ancient Yearly Meetings of New England, Virginia, North Carolina, London, and Dublin, in which there is no schism. These according to the order of the Society, constitute but one body, which acknowledges no communion, nor religious fellowship with the Separatists or their separate meetings.

The several Yearly Meetings on the American Continent have issued Testimonies against these innovations, adapted to the state of Society within their respective limits. And while these Testimonies, written with application to the defection in a local point of view, have pursued the subject more or less extensively, as the occasion seemed to demand, there is in them a harmonious accordance, so far as they go, in the doctrines which they maintain.

This exercise and concern in the Yearly Meetings in their disjoint all Friends, in its extended influence and operation, embracing the welfare of the whole body, has led to an engagement to hold up a united testimony to those great truths, which the Society of Friends has ever most purely believed; and to stir up our members to the practical observance of their individual duties.

The article of belief, which stands foremost in its nature and importance, and that which is the foundation of all others, is, the Being of one God — infinite in all his attributes, and existing in his own Divine perfections, "from everlasting to everlasting." This One, true, eternal and incomprehensible God, created, and still upholds "all things by the Word of his Power." In his infinite goodness, he has been pleased to reveal to mankind, a knowledge of Himself, and of the means of acceptance with Him, so far as, in his wisdom, he saw to be fit, and suited to the condition of the human mind.

From these revelations of the Spirit of God, proceeded the Scripture of Truth, which were written by "holy men of God" "as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." And by the operations of the same Spirit, he still influences the hearts of the children of men to practical righteousness, and to a belief, in harmonious accordance with the testimony of the Holy Scriptures. These Divine revelations embrace the doctrines of religion, and the dealings of God with his rational creatures, in the way, both of his mercy and his judgments.

The fallen condition of man, as he stands in a state of nature, is a doctrine held forth in the Holy Scriptures, and is of great importance in its application to ourselves, as well as in its intimate connection with the doctrine of redemption by Jesus Christ.

Man was originally created in the Divine image. "In the image of God created he him" "crowned him with glory & honor" and set him over the works of his hands. But by transgression he fell from this exalted condition; incurred the penalty of death, and so lost the divine image — the wisdom, purity, & power in which he was made. — This lapse of our prime ancestors not only immediately affected the actual transgressors, but remotely all their posterity. The society of Friends, in declaring their belief, of the extension of the effects of Adam's fall,

to all his posterity, have been so dull to be inquired from there effects, as they apply to us simply in a state of nature, or as the posterity of Adam in his fallen state; and the guilt or sin which attaches to us in consequence of our own actual transgressions. —

"Though we do not ascribe any whit of Adam's guilt to men, until they make it theirs by the like acts of disobedience; yet we cannot suppose that men, who are come of Adam naturally, can have any good thing in their nature, as belonging to it; which he, from whom they derive their nature, had not himself, to communicate unto them. If then we may affirm that Adam did not retain in his nature, as belonging thereunto, any will or light, capable to give him knowledge in spiritual things, then neither can his posterity. For whatsoever good any man doeth, it proceeds not from his nature, as he is man, or the son of Adam; but from the seed of God in him, as a new visitation of life, in order to bring him out of his natural condition." Barclay's Apology, Prop. IV. sect. 2.

"For we affirm, that as all men partake of the fruit of Adam's fall in that by reason of that evil seed which through him is communicated unto them, they are prone and inclined unto evil, though thousands of thousands be ignorant of Adam's fall, neither ever knew of the eating of the forbidden fruit; so also many may come to feel the influence of this holy and divine seed and light, and be turned from evil to good by it, though they know nothing of Christ's coming in the flesh, through whose obedience and sufferings it is purchased unto them." Ibid. Prop. V. & VI. sect. 15. —

Thus "by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law, sin was in the world; but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come." Rom. V. 12, 13, 14.

The Holy Scriptures record the fall of man, as having taken place through the temptation of a separate being. The whole course of Scripture testimony, both under the law and the gospel, represents the devil or Satan as a distinct being, and properly forming no part of man. The circumstance of his existence as a tempter, and of his offering falsehood, which is sin; and of his denying the veracity of God, which is blasphemy, before our first parents had committed their offence, or yielded to the temptation, prove undeniably his separate existence; and that there was such a being in the exercise of his malevolent character, while our prime ancestors were yet in the divine image. The same species of evidence is found in the temptations which were presented to our blessed Lord. In those temptations, there was falsehood uttered, and a reward proposed for worshipping the devil, all which in itself, was sin of the highest grade. But the Lord Jesus Christ, in his divine power, stood in complete dominion over it; and it would be blasphemy in us to say, that the least degree of sin attached to him.

Recurring to the fall of our first parents, we find that judgment was passed upon them separately; and the sentence, pronounced on the tempter, was entirely different from that which was passed, either on Adam or Eve.

The separate existence of the devil is clearly declared by Robert Barclay, when, speaking of "that seed of sin in all men, whereunto they become obnoxious by reason of the fall," he says: "Which though in itself really sin, yet is it not man's, but the devil's, until man give way to it." Barclay's Works, Fol. 768.

William Penn connects this doctrine with the disobedience of divine

mercy, in providing the means of redemption for man, when he says: "Yet God that made him had pity on him for he seeing, man was deceived, and that it was not of malice or an original presumption in him, but through the subtilty of the serpent, (who had first fallen from his own state,)" [provided a means] "to repair the breach, recover the loss, and restore fallen man again by a nobler and more excellent Adam, promised to be born of a woman."— Penn's Rise and Progress.

In taking a view of the original and present condition of man—at first in the divine image, and afterwards fallen, degenerate and dead, we are to consider him composed in part of an immortal soul, which must eternally exist in a state either of happiness or misery. Thus the doctrine of the resurrection, both of the just and the unjust—of future judgment—of rewards and punishments; and the realities of heaven and hell, is inseparably connected with the belief of the attributes of God, and the immortality of the soul. And hence the consequences of sin, and of alienation from God, not being confined to the present state of existence, but of eternal duration, the redemption of man becomes one of the most awful, humbling, and exalted subjects which can possibly engage the attention of the human mind. The depth of darkness into which we have been plunged, the awfulness of the consequences attendant on that state, the riches of the love of God, displayed in the redemption by Jesus Christ, and the height of happiness and glory to which we may be raised through that redemption, combine, not only to recommend this doctrine to our frequent meditation, but to clothe the mind with the most humbling feelings, and to inspire it with the most animating hopes. And in entering on this deeply interesting subject, we declare our belief, in the Lord Jesus Christ, and in his divine offices in our redemption.

The Evangelist sets forth his divinity in that remarkable testimony which he bears, when he says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men." "That was the true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world and the world was made by Him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." John I. 1, 2, 3, 4, 9 to 14.

He himself spoke of the glory which He had with the Father "before the world was." The apostle in speaking of Him bears this corresponding testimony; "Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but made himself of no reputation and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil. II. v. 6 to 11. And again it is declared, that "God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time

past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son whom he hath appointed Heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they."— "And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him."— "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God! is for ever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."— "And thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of thine hands: they shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed; but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail."— Heb. I. 1, 2. 3. 4. 6. 8. 10. 11, 12.

The apostle further testified: "But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." I Cor. VIII. 6. And the same apostle, "as his manner was," went into the synagogue at Thessalonica, "and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures, opening and alleging that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus whom I preach unto you, is Christ." Acts XVII. 2, 3. "And when he was in Corinth, he was pressed in spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ." ib. XVIII. 5.

As the law was a schoolmaster to lead to Christ, and by various rituals, intimately connected with the most solemn acts of devotion and the service of God, to represent the offices of Christ in the redemption of man, so Almighty God was pleased, in his infinite wisdom & goodness, through the medium of prophetic vision, not only more clearly to reveal those good things to come, which were prefigured in the law, but also to point out the manner, and even the time of the coming of Christ. Thus the prophet declared: "Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call his name Immanuel,"— Isaiah 7. 14, "which being interpreted is God with us."— Matt. I. 23.

This testimony is in perfect accordance with other prophecies concerning the promised Messiah, in which it is declared: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." Isa. 9. 6, 7. "But thou Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Micah 5. 2.

The testimony of the angel unto Mary, on the miraculous conception, expressly declared, — "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee, shall be called the Son of God." Luke I. 35. "The angel of the Lord appeared also to the Shepherds who were watching over their flocks by night, "and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is

1830. Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Luke II. 9, 10, 11, 12.

"So Simeon, who waited for the consolation of Israel, it was revealed by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." Luke II. 26 to 32.

In thus bringing into view the manhood of Jesus Christ, in union with the Eternal Word, for as Robert Barclay declares, "the whole manhood of Christ was united to the Logos [or Word] and the Logos to it, and in it," Barclay's Works, fol. 628; we consider him as the promised Messiah — that he is the Captain of our salvation — that it is he upon whom help is laid, who is mighty, and able to save unto the uttermost all those that come unto God by him — and that, agreeably to the testimony of the angel from heaven, at the period of his birth, he was "Christ the Lord." And therefore he was not made liable to sin, (for sin being expressly excepted by the apostle, in speaking of the manhood of Christ, the concomitants of sin are also necessarily excluded.

Robert Barclay bears a clear testimony to this doctrine, when, in reply to the question, "Wherein did Christ excel other infants?" he said, "In that he had no seed of sin in him as other infants have; and that not only, but he had nothing of that weakness and pronensity to yield to the evil influence thereof, as other infants; but was in greater strength, glory, and dominion over it than Adam, even before he fell. This shows his privilege above others, and in nothing contradicteth what I have said before." Barclay's Works, fol. 773.

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh & blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that, through death, he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." Heb. II. 14. And though as our great High Priest, he was "touched with a feeling of our infirmities," and as a sacrifice for our sins, "tasted death for every man," yet it was impossible for him to fall under the power of the tempter, or to be holden of the pains of death. These consequences flow from the divine attributes which he possessed, and which are abundantly ascribed to him in the Holy Scriptures. "Having spoiled principalities & powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Col. II. 15.

While therefore we do not, on the one hand, ascribe the attributes of the Eternal Word to the manhood merely, nor on the other, represent that manhood as having in it a seed of sin, "as other infants have," or as having been liable to come under the power of darkness, or even his flesh to see corruption — when speaking of him as Jesus Christ, we conceive it to be important to include both his Godhead and manhood. "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Col. II. 9.

Thus we find, that while he walked among men, his language, in relation to himself, embraced both his manhood, and his eternal deity. Thus it was that he spoke of his sufferings and death, and of the glory which he had with the Father before the world was. And being "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead;" Rom. I. 4. and having

made his disciples witnesses of this great event, commissioned them to proclaim the glorious truths of the gospel, and declared his omnipotence and omniscience; "he led them out as far as to Bethany; and he lifted up his hands and blessed them. And it came to pass while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven; and they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Luke 24. 50. 51, 52. It was in relation to the same doctrine that the apostle speaks of the working of the mighty power of God, "which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come." Eph. I. 20, 21. And when he appeared to his servant John, he said, "I am he that liveth and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Rev. I. 18.

Thus we believe him to be "both true God and true man;" Barclay's Works, Vol. 794. "and that he continues so to be glorified in the heavens," Apol. Prop. V. & VI. Sect. 13.: "angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him." 1 Pet. 3. 22. And "it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead." Acts 10. 42.

In relation to the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh, and the end of that coming, he himself declared: "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." Matt. 20. 28. And at another time he said: "I lay down my life for the sheep." "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." John 10. 15. 18.

The apostle Paul, in speaking on the same subject, says: "We see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour, that he, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man." Heb. 2. 9. "The love of Christ," says he, "constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead; and that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves; but unto him which died for them and rose again." 2 Cor. 5. 14, 15. "I delivered unto you first of all, that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures." 1 Cor. 15. 3. "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation, by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him." 1 Thes. 5. 9, 10. "God commendeth his love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life." Rom. 5. 8, 9, 10. "For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." 1 Tim. 2. 5, 6.

The death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross, thus held forth as being for us, and the means of reconciliation with God, is represented in the Scriptures as a sacrifice; and as that one sacrifice which was represented by the sacrifices under the legal dispensation. For it is clearly declared, that, "The Holy Ghost this signifying, That the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing; which was a figure for the time then present, in which were

1830. offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. But Christ being come, an High Priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood, he entered in once, into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Heb. 9. 8-14.

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; for then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world; but now once, in the end of the world, hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment; so Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many: and unto them that look for him, shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Heb. 24. 25, 26. 27, 28.

The doctrine of the efficacy of the death of Christ runs through the whole body of Scripture testimony, both under the law and the gospel. It was represented by the offerings prescribed in the law — it was testified of by the prophets, and powerfully proclaimed by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our early Friends, in full accordance with the testimony of the Holy Scriptures, declared their firm belief in the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, as a sacrifice for sin.

Robert Barclay, in his Apology, says: "Nevertheless as we firmly believe it was necessary that Christ should come, that by his death and sufferings he might offer up himself a sacrifice to God for our sins, who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree: so we believe that the remission of sins which any partake of, is only in and by virtue of that most satisfactory sacrifice, and no otherwise." Prop. V. & VI. sect. 15.—

"We consider then our redemption in a twofold respect or state, both which in their own nature are perfect, though in their application to us, the one is not, nor can be, without respect to the other. The first is the redemption performed & accomplished by Christ for us, in his crucified body without us: the other is the redemption wrought by Christ in us, which no less properly is called and accounted a redemption, than the former. The first, then, is that whereby man, as he stands in the fall, is put into a capacity of salvation, and hath conveyed unto him a measure of that power, virtue, spirit, life and grace, that was in Christ Jesus; which, as the free gift of God, is able to counterbalance, overcome, and root out the evil seed, wherewith we are naturally, as in the fall, leavened. The second is that, whereby we witness and know this pure and perfect redemption in ourselves, purifying, cleansing, and redeeming us from the power of corruption, and bringing us into unity, favor, and friendship with God. By the first of these two, we that are lost in Adam, plunged in the bitter and corrupt seed, unable of ourselves to do any good thing, but naturally joined & united to evil, forward and propense to all iniquity, servants and slaves to the power and spirit of darkness, are, notwithstanding all this, so far reconciled to God, by the death of his Son, while enemies, that we are put into a capacity of salvation; having the glad tidings of the gospel of peace offered;

unto us and God is reconciled unto us in Christ, calls and invites us to himself. ×××× By the second we witness this outward brought into act, whereby receiving, and not resisting, the operations of his death to wit, the light, spirit, and grace of Christ, revealed in us, we witness a real, true, and inward redemption from the power and prevalency of sin, and so come to be truly and really redeemed, justified, and made righteous, and so a capable union and friendship with God. "Thus he died for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity: and thus we know him and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable to his death. This last follows the first in order, and is a consequence of it, proceeding from it, as an effect from its cause. So as none could have enjoyed the last, without the first had been, such being the will of God: so also can none now partake of the first, but as he witnesseth the last. Wherefore, as to us, they are both causes of our justification: the first the procuring, efficient, the other the formal cause." ib. Prop. VII. sect. 3. "Therefore, as by the offence of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so, by the righteousness of one, the free gift came upon all men, unto justification of life." Rom. 5. 18. And as the free gift is come upon all men, unto justification of life, the salvation of all men must be possible, through this free gift, which came by Jesus Christ.

By the doctrine thus stated by the Apostle, in regard to the universality of the effects, both of the fall of Adam, and of the coming of Christ, it is evident that infants are included in both its parts. And ~~their~~ their salvation depends on the same cause, and "differs from that of persons who have attained to years of religious understanding, in no other respect than what arises from the capacities of the respective individuals. We believe that every soul that comes into the world does need a Saviour. We also believe that every soul that comes into the world is an object of redeeming love. And as we inherit a seed of sin, so, through Jesus Christ, we are heirs of that grace, which is the efficient cause of salvation to all that are saved. If infants therefore receive the one, and we agree that they do, they must also receive the other, as 'the free gift that is come upon all men, to justification.' This gift, or remedy, must be, as the Apostle testifies, as extensive as the cause it was designed to remove. Thus the seed of the kingdom, as a redeeming principle, is placed in the heart of every individual, ready to expand with the opening faculties of the soul, and to bear the government of it, from the first dawn of intellectual life. In moderate ages, when these two principles begin to exert their respective powers, the principle of light and life, if not resisted by the individual, will overpower and eradicate the principle or seed of evil. As in all stages it is the stronger, so in this first stage of human life, where it has not been resisted, where it stands just as the gift and means of salvation provided by our heavenly Father, it must be sufficient for salvation. Thus, through Jesus Christ, a remedy sufficient for salvation has been provided for every individual soul; and nothing but individual disobedience can deprive us of the offered salvation. 'This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, but men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.' Under this condemnation, children cannot come, until, attaining to the condition of moral agents, they love darkness, rather than light." Doctrines of Friends, p. 38, 39. See also Phipps' Orig. & Prog. State of Man, chap. II.

And not only does the propitiation of our Lord Jesus Christ apply to the effects of the fall, and places us in a capacity of obtaining salvation, but also to the actual transgressions of men. "For as all men who have

1830. came to many a state of the man Jesus only excepted, ever sinned, therefore all ~~have~~ have need of this Saviour, to remove the wrath of God from them due to their offences; in this respect he is truly said to have borne the iniquities of us all, in his body on the tree, and is therefore the only Mediator, having, qualified the wrath of God towards us, so that our former sins stand not in our way, being, by virtue of his most satisfactory sacrifice, removed and pardoned. "Neither do we think that remission of sins is to be expected, sought, or obtained, any other way, or by any works or sacrifice whatsoever." Apol. Prop. VII. Sect. 3. "For sin once committed cannot be undone; present and future obedience is no more than duty; and past offences must still remain against us without forgiveness." Original and Present State of Man, p. 18.

But in respect to us as moral agents, we believe, that "though Christ died for us, that we might be brought unto glory, yet we are not actually purified, fitted for, and introduced into the kingdom, merely by that one offering. The way to reconciliation was opened by the death of Christ; but we are not saved by his life, till we savingly experience the work of salvation in our own particulars." Pb. 19.

In thus attributing our salvation to Christ, in the way of this twofold or complete justification there is a necessary reference to the office of our blessed Redeemer, as mediator and intercessor. Not only was he our holy sacrifice and propitiation, but through him the gift of grace, as an operative power in the hearts of men, was universally dispensed to the whole human race. The excellency of the gospel dispensation was set forth by the prophet Joel, when under divine authority he declared: "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy." Joel 2. 28. The apostle Peter bore testimony to the fulfilment of this prophecy; and bringing into view the coming, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth, he said: "This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this which ye now see and hear." Acts 2. 32, 33.

And our Lord himself, before his crucifixion, in order to instruct his immediate followers in the nature of the gospel dispensation, told them it was expedient for them that he should go away. This related to his death. "For if I go not away," said he, "the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." John 16. 7. This Comforter is that Holy Spirit which proceeds from the Father and the Son, and by whose inward operations in our hearts, we are sanctified and prepared for an inheritance eternal in the heavens.

Thus the mediation of Jesus Christ is brought into view, in the pouring out of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh. And many other portions of Scripture corroborate this doctrine. "Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." And his own language is clear and undeniable on the subject: "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever: even the Spirit of Truth." John 14. 16, 17. and who should guide them into all truth.

But the office of Mediator has not ceased; for it is in this office that he is our great High Priest. The apostle Paul says, "But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7. 24, 25. And again, "It is

is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us." Rom. 8. 33, 34.

It was with a view to the mediatorial office of our blessed Lord, that the apostle addressed this encouraging language to the Hebrews: "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession." Heb. 4. 14. And it was on the same ground that he said, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." ib. v. 16. And this is included with his other blessed and glorious offices, in that declaration which he made of himself: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me." John 14. 6

From this general ground of redemption by Jesus Christ, proceeds the doctrine of the sensible influences of the Holy Spirit on the hearts of men. As it was set forth in the testimony of the apostle Peter, on the day of Pentecost, so it stands in the very nature of the divine dispensation. Our Lord declared that he would send the Comforter, and in another place in speaking of the Holy Spirit, he said, "Whom the Father will send in my name." Our early Friends, in conformity with these testimonies, declared that, "The Spirit of God proceedeth from the Father and the Son, and is God." Barclays Works, Fol. 743.

And in its holy operations on the hearts of men, it leads to a belief in the Father and the Son: "He that believeth on the Son of God," saith the apostle, "hath the witness in himself." 1 John 5. 10. "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not, is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." John 3. 17, 18, 19. Our Lord declared that the Holy Spirit would testify of him, and should reprove the world of sin, because they believed not on him. "God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Cor. 4. 6. And while this inshining light teaches us, "that denying ungodliness, and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world," it also influences the mind to look "for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works." 2 Tit. 2. 12, 13, 14. The doctrine, therefore, of the light of Christ in the hearts of men, cannot be maintained under its own divine influence, in opposition to the belief in the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, his divinity, the propitiatory nature of his death, his resurrection, ascension to heaven, and mediation for us, as our Holy Redeemer.

Robert Barclay declared that "the doctrines of the incarnation, sufferings, death, and resurrection of Christ, &c. are necessary every where to be preached, and being preached, to be believed and improved, as being of, and belonging unto the integral parts of Christianity, and Christian religion." Works, fol. 629. And in his Apology he says: "We do not hereby intend any ways to lessen or derogate from the atonement and sacrifice of Christ: but on the contrary do magnify and exalt it. For as we believe all those things to have been certainly transacted which are recorded in the

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1830. "It is declared concerning the birth, life, miracles, sufferings, resurrection, and ascension of Christ; so we do also believe that it is the duty of every one to believe it to mean it exactly as God has revealed the same, and to attend to them the knowledge of it." And he frames a disbelief of these truths on the strongest grounds of condemnation and declares that it would be "to resist that Holy Seed, which, as minded, would lead and incline every one to believe it as it is offered unto them; though it reacheth not in every one the outward and explicit knowledge of it, nevertheless it always assenteth to it where it is declared." Disc. V. & VI. Sect. 15.

The doctrine of the light of Christ in the hearts of men, and of the sensible influences of this divine power, taken in connection with the other fundamental doctrines of the gospel, has been held by the Society from its first being gathered to be a people, to the present time. But it ought to be remembered, that it is to be carefully distinguished from every other influence which actuates the human mind. Man being endowed with rational faculties, and moreover subject to be operated upon by the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now rules in the hearts of the children of disobedience, the admonition of the apostle is of peculiar importance: "Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits, whether they are of God." 1 John 4. 1.

There is, indeed, much affecting evidence, that man may be deceived in regard to the origin of the influences which he feels, directing the operations of his mind. It is possible to put darkness for light, and light for darkness. And, no wonder, since the apostle declared that "Satan himself, is transformed* into an angel of light, therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness." 2 Cor. 11. 14, 15.

We therefore profess and firmly believe, that the light of Christ in the heart, is an unerring guide, and the primary rule of Faith and practice — that it is the only medium through which we can truly and livingly attain to the knowledge of God, and the mysteries of his heavenly Kingdom.

That the influences of the Holy Spirit must be sensibly experienced, in order to be available to us, is evident, in the very nature of divine things. It is this which produces all heavenly affections and feelings on the obedient mind — which opens the understanding, and gives it a right perception, and is in us an operative power, by which we are enabled to resist temptation, and walk in obedience to the law of God. By its powerful operations, we are washed, and sanctified, ~~and justified~~, and justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus, for it is "by the Spirit of our God." 1 Cor. 6. 11. We desire to know the importance of this doctrine, and to guard it against innovations. Nor can a right belief in the Holy Spirit and his influences and operations upon the human mind, as the primary source of divine knowledge in us, and the immediate operative power, in the work of sanctification and complete redemption, detract from the value of the Holy Scriptures. For as we believe that they certainly proceeded from the same Spirit, so we believe that whatever is contrary to their testimony in faith or practice, must be a delusion, and in opposition to the immediate influences of the Holy Spirit.

The Society of Friends has declared, both by the concurrent testimony of many of its most eminent members, and in a collective capacity, their firm belief in the Lord Jesus Christ, as the Saviour of men:

* The word "transformed" in these portions of Scripture relates to appearances, and does not mean an actual change in the nature of things.

that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, that he wrought miracles in the land of Judea, was hated and rejected by the chief priests and people of the Jews, betrayed by Judas, and crucified under Pontius Pilate: that he rose from the dead the third day, appeared to his disciples, and ascended to heaven, and ever liveth to make intercession for us; that he is now come in Spirit, and hath given us an understanding being our Prophet and High Priest, and head over all things to his church — by whom also God will judge the world in righteousness, whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. This we say is that Lord Jesus Christ whom we own to be our life and salvation.

Thus, though we have rejected the terms of separate & distinct persons in the Godhead, as conveying ideas too gross to be admitted in relation to that awful and mysterious subject, we have ever believed, and as constantly maintained, the truth of that great and mysterious doctrine of "the three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one," — One God; infinite, eternal, and incomprehensible, & blessed for ever more!

In confirmation of these doctrines, we think it proper here to introduce a Testimony which was presented by George Fox, to the Governor and Council of Barbadoes.

"Whereas many scandalous lies and slanders have been cast upon us, to render us odious, as that we deny God, Christ Jesus, and the Scriptures of truth, &c., this is to inform you, that all our books and declarations, which for these many years have been published to the world, clearly testify the contrary. Yet, for your satisfaction, we now plainly and sincerely declare that we own and believe in the only wise, omnipotent, and everlasting God, the Creator of all things, in heaven and earth, and the preserver of all that he hath made; who is God over all, blessed forever; to whom be all honour, glory, dominion, praise and thanksgiving, both now & for ever more! And we own and believe in Jesus Christ, his Beloved and only begotten Son, in whom he is well pleased, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary; in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins; who is the express image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature; by whom were all things created that are in heaven and in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, dominions, principalities or powers; all things were created by him. And we own & believe that he was made a sacrifice for sin, who knew no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth; that he was crucified for us in the flesh, without the gates of Jerusalem; and that he was buried, and rose again the third day by the power of his Father, for our justification; and that he ascended up into heaven, and now sitteth at the right hand of God. This Jesus who was the foundation of the holy prophets and apostles, is our foundation; and we believe there is no other foundation to be laid but that which is laid, even Christ Jesus; who tasted death for every man, and his blood for all men is the propitiation for ours sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world: according as John the Baptist testified of him when he said: 'Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world.' John 1.29. We believe that he alone is our Redeemer and Saviour, the Captain of our salvation, who saves us from sin, as well as from hell and the wrath to come, and destroys the devil and his works; he is the seed of the woman that bruises the serpent's head, to wit, Christ Jesus, the Alpha & Omega, the First and the Last. He is, as the Scriptures of Truth say of him, our wisdom, righteousness, justification, and redemption: neither is there salvation in any other.

1830. for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we may be saved. He alone is the Shepherd & Bishop of our souls: he is our Prophet, whom Moses long since testified of, saying, 'A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you; and it shall come to pass, that every soul that will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.' Acts 3. 22. 23. He is now come in Spirit, and hath given us an understanding, that we know him that is true. He rules in our hearts by his law of love and life, and makes us free from the law of sin and death. We have no life but by him; for he is the quickening Spirit, the second Adam, the Lord from heaven, by whose blood we are cleansed, and our consciences sprinkled from dead works, to serve the living God. He is our Mediator, who makes peace & reconciliation between God offended, and us offending; he being the oath of God, the new covenant of light, life, grace, and peace, the author and finisher of our faith. This Lord Jesus Christ, the heavenly man, the Emanuel, God with us, we all own and believe in; he whom the High Priest raged against, and said he had spoken blasphemy; whom the priests and elders of the Jews took counsel together against, and put to death; the same whom Judas betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, which the priests gave him as a reward for his treason; who also gave large money to the soldiers to broach a horrible lie; namely, 'That his disciples came and stole him away by night, whilst they slept.' After he was risen from the dead, the history of the Acts of the Apostles sets forth how the chief priests and elders persecuted the disciples of this Jesus, for preaching Christ & his resurrection. This, we say, is that Lord Jesus Christ, whom we own to be our life and salvation.

"Concerning the Holy Scriptures, we believe they were given forth by the Holy Ghost of God, through the holy men of God, who, as the Scripture itself declares, 2 Pet. 1. 21. 'spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.' We believe they are to be read, believed, and fulfilled (he that fulfils them is Christ;) and they are 'profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works,' 2 Tim. 3. 16. 17. 'and are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus.' ib. 15. We believe the Holy Scriptures are the words of God: for it is said in Exodus 20. 1. 'God spake all these words saying,' &c. meaning the ten commandments given forth upon Mount Sinai.' And in Revelations 22. 18. saith John, 'I testify to every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man addeth unto these,—' and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy,' [not the Word.] &c. So in Luke 1. 20. 'Because thou believest not my words.' And in John 5. 47. and 15. 7. and 14. 23. & 12. 47. So that we call the Holy Scriptures, as Christ, the apostles and holy men of God called them, viz. the words of God." George Fox's Journal, Vol. II.

Our other doctrines and testimonies are in intimate connection with, and dependence on the fundamental doctrines of the gospel.

Worship.— Being fully persuaded that man without the Spirit of Christ inwardly revealed, can do nothing to the glory of God, or to effect his own salvation, we believe that its divine influence is essentially necessary to the performance of the highest act of which the human mind is capable, even the worship of Almighty God, in spirit and in truth. To exhibit this essential

sanctification, it is our duty to retire inwardly to the mansion of divine grace, patiently and reverently waiting upon the Lord, for his life giving presence, by which we shall be furnished with a sense of what we need, and enabled to offer with acceptance that offering which he requires at our hands. And whether it may please the great Head of the church, to authorize any vocal communication in our assemblies or not; yet those who are thus inwardly gathered, depending upon the teachings of the Holy Spirit, and waiting for the arising of his divine life, will witness a growth in the knowledge of the blessed truth — and be of the number of the true worshippers whom the Father seeketh to worship him; "who rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh."

Although true worship is not restricted to time or place, yet we have ever believed it to be incumbent upon us to meet often together, in order to bear a public testimony of our dependence upon the Father of all our sure mercies, and to experience the renewal of spiritual strength. We would therefore affectionately exhort all our members, not to suffer the smallness of their numbers, or the improper influence of temporal things, to discourage them from constantly attending our religious meetings, but to remember that our Lord has declared, "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matt. 18. 20.

Ministry. — We believe that the authority and qualification, for the ministry of the Gospel, is a special gift, dispensed by the Head of the church, to those whom he sanctifies, and prepares for the work, agreeably to the testimony of the Holy Scriptures. "And he gave some, apostles, and some, prophets, and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Ephes. 4. 11, 12. This gift cannot be exercised but as the ministers are actuated and moved by the Spirit of Christ; and minister under the renewed influences and openings thereof; according to the apostolic injunction: — "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it, as of the ability which God giveth; that God in all things may be glorified, through Jesus Christ." 1 Pet. 4. 11.

Notwithstanding this ministry is altogether independent of human learning and wisdom, it has been the repeated advice of the Society, and we believe it is of great advantage to ministers as well as others, frequently to read the Holy Scriptures, having their minds turned to that Spirit, by which they were dictated; and which alone can open the divine mysteries contained in them. Thus they would become instructed in things pertaining to salvation; and be prepared, like the good scribe, to bring forth out of the treasury, things new and old.

As this gift is freely received, so it is to be freely exercised, without coveting any man's silver or gold: not for the sake of pecuniary, nor obtained by the slavish fear of man, but in simple and humble obedience to the will of God.

As it is the sole prerogative of the Head of the church, to qualify and send forth such as it pleased him, without regard to any worldly rank or human acquirements: he has conferred the gift of the ministry on women as well as men; as foretold by the prophet Joel, and confirmed by the apostles of our Lord: "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy." Joel 2. 28.

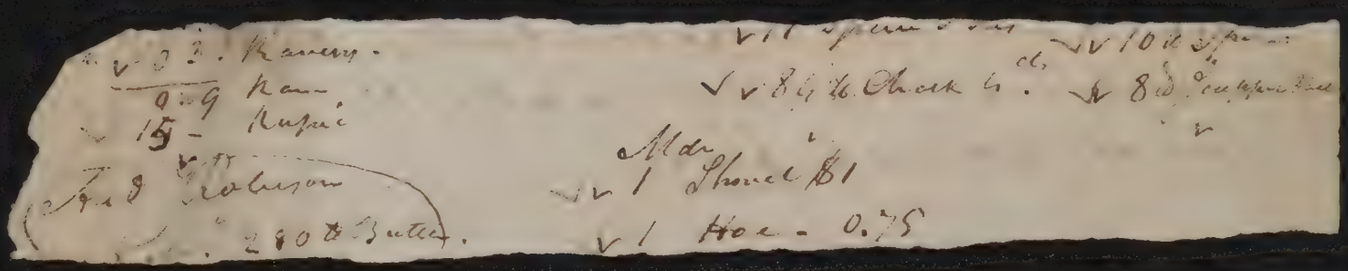
Although we are commanded to watch & pray continually, neither of which can be done without divine help, yet we believe that the solemn duty of vocal prayer requires a special impulse; and in our addresses to the throne

1830. of Jesus, it becomes us to remember that we are but dust — that He who is "glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders," ought to be approached with holy fear and reverence. But we are emboldened to draw near to Him in living faith, for "the Christ also suffered for our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." And as "he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints, according to the will of God," we doubt not that those prayers which are put up under his divine influence, will be graciously answered.

"Baptism." — "As there is one Lord, and one faith, so there is but one baptism, of which that administered by John was a figure. It is "not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." This answer of a good conscience, can only be produced by the cleansing operations of the Holy Spirit in the heart; subduing its froward nature, and bringing it into conformity to the divine will. The distinction between the baptism of John, which was with water, and that of Christ by his Spirit is clearly marked by these expressions of John: "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire; whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." — Matt. 3. 11, 12. Here he inculcates that the baptism of Christ should winnow the soul of its chaffy or sinful nature; and operate as fire to the perfect consumption of all its defilement. Spirit baptism is not connected with water baptism, nor at all dependent upon it. The baptism of the Saviour, which is the one baptism, is complete in itself without exterior form or shadow. It is well known by the experience of many, that this baptism is gradually effected by the spiritual immersions of the soul. A sense of its sinful condition, with the distance it stands at from the God of perfect purity, is first given it, whereby it is brought into self-abasement, contrition, and at length into humble resignation of all to Him. Thus, it becomes baptized into the similitude of the death of Christ. Through baptism also it riseth with him into newness of life, which enableth it to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, to his praise. To them who had thus followed Christ in the regeneration, the apostle said, "Ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power. In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body ~~of the sins~~ of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ; buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." Col. 2. 10, 11, 12. — True Christian baptism is a great and important work: the work of Christ himself, whereby the soul is measurably baptized into his Spirit, and adorned with its virtues. "As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ." Gal 3. 27. Such are, in degree, indued with his holy nature. For "if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new; and all things are of God." 2 Cor. 5. 17, 18. See Phelps on Baptism.

Previously to entering upon their ministry, the apostles were baptized with the Holy Ghost, through which they received power to fulfill the commission given them in these words: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and spoon ; has right arm broke in two places ;
" shoulder broke. together with his collar bone and breast
" bone shocked out of place "



Pauls 111 — 116 — 117 — 116 — 114, 120, 117

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Prior to the Separation
in N. E. Yearly Meeting
there were two con-
ferences of Committees
of the different Yearly
Meetings on the American
Continent —

When and Where
these conferences
holden? —

word of the Holy Ghost." Wherever the gospel is really preached, it is preached by power, in a greater or less degree. It was the unction of the Holy Spirit accompanying this ministry, by which the apostles were enabled to teach, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: and it is only through the same medium that the same effect is produced in any degree, by the ministry of the gospel at the present day.

Supper. — Respecting the communion of the body and blood of Christ, we believe that it is inward and spiritual; by which the inward man is daily nourished in the hearts of those in whom Christ dwells: of which the breaking of bread by the Lord Jesus, with his disciples, was a figure; which they who had received the substance, used in the church for a time, for the sake of the weak as they did some other outward observations. But the essential communion between Christ and his church, is only maintained by a real participation of his divine nature, through faith and obedience; and is the supper alluded to in the Revelations: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3. 20.

War. — The reign of Jesus Christ is peculiarly distinguished by its benign influence upon the heart of man, regulating his passions & propensities, and inspiring him with love to God and towards the whole human family. The prophet Isaiah, in the openings of heavenly light, foresaw the coming and government of the Prince of Peace, and emphatically describes its peaceable effects in these words: "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf, and the young lion, and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." Isa. 11. 6. 9. "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." ib. 2. 4. See Mic. 4. 3. Correspondent with these predictions, the birth of the Messiah was announced by the heavenly anthem, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men." Luke 2. 14. So far as mankind are brought under the dominion of the Spirit of Christ, wars and fightings must cease; those lusts from which they spring, will be subdued; and in place of violence and injustice, the glory of God, and the true happiness of man, will become the great objects of desire. Thus we believe that the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ shall spread & prevail, and that he who is wonderful in working, will carry on and perfect his blessed cause of peace and righteousness on the earth.

It behoveth us to hold forth the ensign of the Lamb of God; and by our patience and peaceable behaviour, to show that we walk in obedience to the example and precepts of our Lord and Master, who hath commanded us to "love our enemies, and to do good to them that hate us." Matt. 5. 44. "Wherefore we exhort all the members of our society, to be faithful to that ancient Testimony borne by us, ever since we were a people, against bearing arms and fighting; that by a conduct agreeable to our profession, we may demonstrate ourselves to be real followers of the Messiah, the peaceable Saviour — of the increase of whose government and peace there shall be no end." P. E. 1744.

Oaths. — Scarcely any branch of our Christian testimonies, has produced more suffering to the Society, than its steady resistance to the imposition

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of oaths. We believe ourselves bound by the express command of Christ, to refrain from taking or administering an oath. And it is the advice of the Society that the members should not serve in those offices in civil government which may subject them to the necessity of commiting the use of oaths. "Ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths; but I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is his footstool; neither by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black; but let your communication be yea, yea; nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil." Matt. 5. 33 to 37.

The Apostle James also enjoins: "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath; but let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay, lest ye fall into condemnation." James 5. 12.

The importance of this testimony, and the beneficial influence, which the constancy of Friends to their Christian duty, in this respect, has had upon others, should incite us to increased diligence, as it is through individual faithfulness, that the light of the gospel will be diffused, and the standard of pure righteousness raised amongst the nations.

Spirituous Liquors. — The injurious effects of spirituous liquors, having brought the Society, at different periods, under much concern & solicitude, its voice has been frequently raised to discourage our members from the use of this dangerous article. It is cause of thankfulness, that the subject, fraught with important consequences, both in relation to the temporal and everlasting well being of mankind, has also taken such hold of many pious and reflecting persons in the community, that this concern appears to be spreading its influence to a considerable extent. We feel a renewed desire that all our members may so dwell under the power of the cross of Christ, as to maintain a strict guard against the insidious temptation to use or drink those intoxicating liquors. Let every one know how to possess himself, in sanctification and honour. The time impressively calls for purity of life and conversation; and daily experience teaches, that where this dangerous article is tampered with, all that is noble, all that dignifies us as the rational intelligent creation of God, may be prostrated & debased.

Slavery. — Although, as a religious society, we have cleared our hands of holding our fellow men in bondage, yet as Christians, and members of a community in which slavery exists to an enormous extent, we cannot divest ourselves of a tender feeling towards the subjects of this system of oppression, and affecting degradation. The hardships which this poor people undergo, in having their just right to liberty and property violently withheld — abused as they are; and evilly treated in various ways; and moreover being subjected to have the tenderest ties rent asunder by the inhuman slave trade, which is carried on to the disgrace of a Christian professing people, are crying evils, and if not arrested, must unquestionably involve our country in serious difficulties and distress.

As advocates of universal righteousness & justice, we should not only entertain a lively sympathy & commiseration towards them and their masters, but embrace every opportunity for exposing the iniquity of the traffic, and of their unjust bondage, and for rightly preparing the way for their emancipation. Much remains to be done, before this foul disgrace is removed from our land. Discouragements may present at every step,

but we humbly trust that the cause of the oppressed is regarded by a merciful and just God; and as the advocates continue to labour with zeal & perseverance in the spirit of the gospel, we entertain no doubt that their labours will be blessed.

Days and Times.— Consistently with our belief in the spirituality of the gospel dispensation, we cannot unite with any in the observance of Public Fasts, feasts, and what they term holy-days. We believe the fast we are now called to is not the bowing of the head like a bulrush for a day, but an universal and continual fasting from every thing which had a tendency to defile the soul, and unfit it for becoming the temple of the Holy Ghost. "If any man will come after me," said our Lord, "let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me." Luke 9. 23. That the primitive believers were convinced that the obligation to regard one day as more holy than another, ceased with the Mosaic dispensation, is evident from the various testimonies of the Holy Scriptures.— "Christ," said Paul, "is the end of the law, for righteousness to every one that believeth." Rom. 10. 4. "Let no man therefore judge you in meat or in drink, or in respect of an holy day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days, which are a shadow of things to come, but the body is of Christ." Col. 2. 16, 17. "Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years; I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain." Gal. 4. 10, 11. "But first, forasmuch as it is necessary that there be some time set apart for the saints to meet together to wait upon God; we find secondly, it is fit at some times that they be freed from their other outward affairs; and that thirdly, reason and equity doth allow, that servants & beasts have some time allowed them to be eased from their continual labour; and that fourthly, it appears that the apostles and primitive Christians did on the first day of the week for these purposes.— We find ourselves sufficiently moved for these causes to do so also, without superstitiously straining the Scriptures for another reason." And though we therefore meet and abstain from working upon this day, which we believe is a practice of great advantage to the community at large— yet we also hold meetings for divine worship at other times. Apol. Prop. XI. sect. 4.

Public feasts in celebration of any important event, so far from being evidences of gratitude for the blessings we enjoy, are often seasons of debasing intemperance, and a growing evil in our country, which we are bound to discountenance, by wholly abstaining from them. An humble and grateful sense of the mercies of our Heavenly Father, ought to fill our hearts with thanksgiving and praise to Him, a tribute ever due from all his people, and to be acknowledged with the deepest humility; but those tumultuous and unseemly demonstrations of joy, which are often accompanied with rioting and drunkenness, instead of, being acceptable to a pure and holy Being, tend to increase the mass of iniquity, and are a reproach to any people.

Amusements.— As our time passeth swiftly away, and our delight ought to be in the Law of the Lord, we believe it to be incompatible with that self-denial which is enjoined upon the disciples of Christ, to permit the attendance of stage plays, horse races, music, dancing, or any such vain sports and pastimes; also being concerned in lotteries, wagering, or other species of gambling— all which are inventions of degenerate persons, tending to stifle the convictions of divine grace— and to set men at ease in a state of alienation from God.

Plainness.— A testimony against the changeable fashions and customs of the world, was an early characteristic of the Society of Friends. Convinced that they had their origin in pride, and were intended to gratify the vain mind, which they believed it to be their religious duty to deny,

1830 they manifested great simplicity in their dress and address, and in the furniture of their houses. & to little sufficiency in the use of the superfluities of the world, and in declining the customary titles and manners of the day. But acting upon principle they stood unmoved by the storm which was raised against them, in which the Christian virtues of patience & forgiveness of injuries shone conspicuously in their conduct. The same divine Spirit which led them to lay aside every thing unbecoming the followers of Christ, would lead us in the same path; and notwithstanding many of our members in religious unity, are known widely decided from that worldliness & vanity in their language, their garb and the furniture of their dwellings, may endeavour to persuade themselves, that these are merely outward & non-essential things, yet the love of them is a certain indication, that whatever else we may profess, they are not in possession of that life and power which was the substance of their forefathers religion. The example of our blessed Saviour and his followers, and of the virtuous and holy men in all ages, ought to make a due impression on every considerate mind, especially on such as have had the advantage of a guarded education. "I will," saith Paul, "that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array, but, which becometh women professing godliness, with good works." 1 Tim. 2. 9. 10. "Whose adorning," says Peter, "let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price; for after this manner in the old time, the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves." 1 Peter 3. 3, 4, 5.

In conformity with these Scripture exhortations, we shall renew the advice of the Society on this subject, issued in 1703 and 1743.

"This meeting, under a deep sense that pride, and the vain customs and fashions of the world, prevail over some of our profession, particularly in the excess of apparel and furniture — doth earnestly recommend, that all who make profession of the truth, take care to be exemplary in what they wear and what they use — so as to avoid the vain customs of the world, and all extravagancy in colour & fashion, and keep themselves in respect thereof, spotless & blameless, adorning their profession in all modesty & sobriety; and that all parents be watchful over their children, and careful not to suffer them to get up into pride and excess. But help them in that decent plainness, which becomes the people of God; that the sin of the children may not lie upon their parents; nor they be exposed to ruin by their parents' neglect. 1703."

"We also tenderly advise, that Friends take heed that they exercise plainness of speech, without respect to persons, in all their converse among men; and not hide their testimony by a cowardly compliance, conforming their language according to their company; a practice of very ill example, and rendering those who use it contemptible and looked upon as a kind of hypocrites even by those with whom they so comply." 1743.

Trade — To make suitable provision for our subsistence is an incumbent duty, the neglect of which is reprobated by the apostle Paul in very strong terms. But while it is obligatory upon us to discharge this duty, our Lord teaches us, in his sermon on the mount, that all those things after which the Gentiles seek are of very inferior importance. —

Such was the redemption from the vain of the world which he inculcated, that he exhorted his followers to "take no thought, saying, What shall we eat, or what shall we drink, or wherewithal shall we be clothed." "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6. 31. 33. We are far from wishing to discourage industry, but when the mind is really kept under the government of the cross a little, with the divine blessing suffices. Our wants being few and circumscribed by the Truth, they would be supplied with moderate labour; and thus the energies of body & mind would be left more free to fulfil the great designs of our creation, to glorify God in the work of salvation and in spreading the knowledge of his blessed Truth amongst mankind. In minds thus bent upon seeking a more glorious inheritance than the accumulation of worldly possessions, a concern is maintained to hold forth an example of temperance, justice and truth; but when a departure from true simplicity of heart and heavenly mindedness prevails, it leads into the love and pursuit of the fading world, often produces the fruits of pride and ambition and occasions many imaginary wants, to provide for which, greater extension of trade and commerce must be resorted to, than many have stock and ability to conduct. Ambition and vain emulation leading some into larger living and greater expenses than their incomes admit, their circumstances become reduced, and being unwilling to lessen their appearance in the world, unwarrantable means to procure a temporary support are sometimes used which have ended in bankruptcy, and brought a shade upon our religious profession. Under such working and deficient circumstances, a proper sense of justice would lead those to give up their effects in due time, rather than to go on enlarging their debts by disreputable artifices, until they are stopped by unavoidable necessity, and plunged at once into ruin, sorrow and disgrace, bringing their creditors into grievous difficulties, or in danger of sinking with them in the wreck of their affairs. The Society has declared its disapprobation of resorting to the practice of raising money by fictitious paper credit, and we would also revive the caution to our members, to avoid entering into joint-securities with others, under the specious plea of rendering acts of kindness, many by so doing having been ruined in their circumstances, and their families reduced to great distress. "Be not thou," said the wise man, "one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee." Prov. 22. 26. 27.

The uprightness and honesty of our Friends in the beginning, in their commerce and callings, was remarkable. How exact were they in performing their words & promises, without evasive excuses and insincere dealings! How careful not to involve themselves in business which they understood not, nor had stock of their own to manage! How circumspect not to contract greater debts than they were able to pay in due time, which brought great credit & reputation to our religious society. It is equally obligatory upon us to living forth the same fruits, we profess the same Faith, and the guidance of the same unerring principle. We therefore affectionately desire that Friends may wait for divine counsel in all their engagements; and not suffer their minds to be hurried away by an inordinate desire of worldly riches; remembering the observation of the apostle in his day, and so often sorrowfully verified in ours, that "they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish & hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil; which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." 1 Tim. 6. 9. 10. Even when riches, to any extraordinary degree, have been amassed, by the successful

1830. industry of parents to have often led them forward into wrong paths, leading them beyond the limitations of truth, into liberties repugnant to our religious testimonies, and sometimes into enterprises which have terminated in irretrievable damage to their temporal affairs, if not an entire neglect of the great work of the soul's salvation! — It is important that those who are possessed of large estates, should set examples of moderation in their manner of living, not merely limiting their expenses by their means, but also, by attending to the circumscribing power of truth, show forth that Christian simplicity which adorns our religious profession.

Government. — The Society of Friends, in accordance with their pacific principles, have ever believed that they were restrained from joining with others in warlike measures, to build down, set up, or depend any government; yet they have declared that "Magistracy or civil government is God's ordinance, the good ends thereof, being for the punishment of evil doers, and the praise of them that do well." So far as the requisitions of government do not violate their consciences, they are bound to obey the laws of their country, and when they cannot actively comply for conscience sake, they passively suffer the penalties which are imposed upon them: believing it to be their religious duty to demean themselves with proper respect and submission to those who are placed over them.

As magistracy is for the punishment of evil doers, and for the praise of them that do well, they avail themselves of the protection which the laws of the land afford for the free and unmolested enjoyment of their civil rights: but in thus resorting to the civil authority, they advise their members to conduct with decency and moderation, without anger and animosity: that they may evince, in acts of justice, and on other occasions, that nothing but the necessity of the case induces them to resort to the law.

The Society discourages its members from accepting posts or offices in civil government, which may expose them to the violations of its Christian testimonies: and from being betrayed into heats and controversies respecting the politics of the world: believing that while we ought to bear such portions of the burthens of civil government as comport with our religious profession, the work in which we are particularly called, is the advancement of the peaceful reign of the Messiah.

In taking a comprehensive view of the doctrines of the Christian religion, it will be seen that there is an intimate connexion of all its parts, and a dependence of the whole on Jesus Christ, in his blessed offices, as the everlasting Foundation. It was on his coming, and what he did for us without us, that the previous forms of devotion were abrogated, and a worship introduced, at once simple and sublime; in which, in humble waiting upon God, we may, as said the apostle, "come boldly to the throne of grace," and hold communion with the Father of mercies, and God of all consolation.

It was He, who, having been crucified, raised from the dead, and exalted by the right hand of God, shed forth the Holy Spirit, by virtue of which both sons and daughters were to prophesy. And those whom he was pleased to call and qualify for the ministry, being ambassadors for him, boldly declared the necessity of faith in Christ, and obedience to his divine precepts. And being raised above the influence of pecuniary considerations, as motives for that dignified work, they were made willing to spend & be spent, for the sake of Christ and his gospel. And in the exercise of their gifts they were instructed to depend on him, to be to them mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance

By his own regenerating power, he leads the soul through those cleansing operations which are represented by outward ordinances, and which consist not in "the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 3. 21. And in the participation of the divine nature, and through that faith which applies and seals the efficacy of his propitiation, we enjoy the communion of the body & blood of Christ.

He brought life and immortality to light by the gospel, and pointed the minds of the humble believers in him, to a mansion of rest eternal in the heavens.

He more clearly revealed the relations we hold to God, and to one another, than had been made known under the previous dispensation. The nature of his peaceful reign, and the social virtues characteristic of his kingdom upon earth, which had been set forth before, in the sublime and figurative language of prophecy, he brought down, in his own divine precepts, to adapt to the humblest understanding. He commanded us to love our enemies — to do good for evil, and as a universal rule of action, to do to others as we would they should do to us. Thus the axe was laid to the very root of the principles of war, retaliation, and revenge, and all the various grades of wrong, oppression, and injustice among men. And by his Spirit in our hearts, he inspires us with those heavenly affections and feelings, and that universal benevolence, in which man, in every situation, is the friend of man — and in the prevalence of which, "violence shall no more be heard in the land, wasting nor destruction within our borders;" and a practical illustration would be given of the anthem of the heavenly host; "Glory to God in the highest; and on earth, peace, good will towards men."

It was on the introduction of the gospel dispensation, that the obligations of truth and undeviating veracity, were so clearly revealed, and so strongly enjoined, as to abolish the previous ceremony of oaths, & place the communications of the Christian, on the solid basis of an unchangeable principle.

And in the solemn and humbling views which are presented to us in the gospel, there is a powerful admonition to temperance, humility, and constant watchfulness — to walk circumspectly, redeeming the time; and looking to a blessed and glorious immortality.

Under the influence of the Spirit of Christ, and in a conformity to the doctrines of the gospel, the primitive believers became as the lights of the world, and held up a standard of righteousness in the earth. They gave a practical illustration of the one true faith, which works by love, and purifies the heart; shewing that they felt the obligation they were under, not to live unto themselves, but unto him that died for them, and rose again.

And when it pleased the great Disposer of events, to open the understandings of our forefathers, and call them to be a separate people, he led them into a revival of the same doctrines, and into a correspondent conduct; so that they were enabled to come up in the fulfilment of the injunction of our blessed Lord, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5. 16.

In maintaining the cause and testimony of Jesus, we desire that the peculiar character of the gospel of Christ, may ever be held in re-

1830. manifest: that the Brethren of the Christian name, "through consolation of the Spirit and Faith of the Truth," may know "out of a good conversation, their works with meekness of wisdom;" and finally "receive the end of their faith, even the salvation of their souls."

Signed on behalf of the General Committee by

Elisha Bates, Clerk

Philadelphia, 8th mo. 4, 1829.

Compared with the copy printed at Phila. 1830. — A.S.

Referred to the printed copy of the foregoing "Testimony," are the Minutes of its adoption by the Yearly Meetings of Friends in America, signed by their respective Clerks, viz.

By "Ohio Yearly Meeting, held at Mount Pleasant, by adjournments, from the 7th of the 9th month to the 12th of the same, inclusive, 1829."

Signed by Elisha Bates, Esther French, } Clerks.

—— "Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at White Water, on the 8th day of the 10th month, 1829."

—— Elijah Coffin, Clerk of the Men's Meeting
Rebecca Jarretson, Clerk of the Women's Meeting.

—— "Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in Baltimore, for the Western Shore of Maryland, and the adjacent parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia, by adjournments, from the 19th of the 10th month to the 23d of the same, inclusive, 1829."

—— Hugh Balderston,
Clerk to the Meeting this year.

—— "Yearly Meeting of North Carolina, 5th day of the 11th month, 1829."

—— Nathan Mendenhall, Clerk to the Men's Meeting, this year.
Abigail Stanley, Clerk to the Women's Meeting, this year.

—— "Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia, by adjournments, from the 19th of the 4th month to the 24th of the same, inclusive, 1830."

—— Samuel Bettle, Clerk.

—— "Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Gravelly Run, in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, by adjournments, from the 17th of the 5th month, to the 19th of the same, inclusive, 1830."

—— Fleming Bates, Clerk.

—— "Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in New York, by adjournments, from the 24th to the 28th of the 5th month, inclusive, 1830."

—— Samuel Parsons, Anne Mott, } Clerks.

—— "Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island in the sixth month, 1830."

—— Abraham Shearman, jun.
Ruth Rodman. } Clerks.

1831. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode-Island, beginning with Public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First Day, the 12th of the Sixth Month, 1831; and on Second Day, the 13th, at Newport, for Discipline.

Accounts were received from all the Quarterly Meetings, and the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are,

For Rhode Island, Thomas Rowland, Benjamin Freeborn, Matthew Purinton, Abel Collins, Theophilus Shove. — Salem, Thomas Davis, Jonathan Nichols, Daniel Johnson, Isaac Bassett. — Sandwich, Seth Davis, Prince Gardner, Joseph Tripp, Barnabas Tabor, Isaac Lawrence, Cornelius Howland, Samuel Macey. — Falmouth, Charles Cartland, Reuben Backet, William Robb, David Douglas. — Smithfield, Moses Farnum, James N. Fry, Rowland Rathbun, Josiah Shove. — Nassaltoro, John Warren, Thomas Pickham, Daniel Tabor, Ebenezer Pope, Samuel Taylor, Cornelius Douglas. — Dover, John Brown, Joshua Horder, Eli Varney, Joshua Jenkins. — who are all present, except one from Dover.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved friends Jonathan & Hannah Chapman Backhouse, of Great Britain, who produced satisfactory Certificates of unity with their ministry and present religious engagements, from the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, held in the 3d month, the Quarterly Meeting of Durham, held at Sunderland in the 4th, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, held in London, in the 5th month, 1830.

We have also the company of our beloved friends Nathan Hunt and Jeremiah Hubbard, of North-Carolina; Elisha Bates and Jared Patterson, of Ohio; and Joseph Hoag, William Carey, Peleg Gifford, Charles Taber, and Lindley M. Hoag, of New York Yearly Meeting; who produced satisfactory Certificates of unity with their ministry, and present engagements, from their respective Meetings.

Our friends Henry Balinger, companion to Nathan Hunt; Henry Stanton, companion to Jared Patterson; Joseph Talcut, companion to Peleg Gifford; Aaron Bull, companion to Charles Taber; with our friend John Knowles, of Fairfield Mo. Meeting; are also acceptably with us, and produced satisfactory Minutes from their respective Monthly Meetings.

The general Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, in the 5th month last year, with its Epistle addressed to this Meeting; was read to our edification and comfort. — Acceptable Epistles from our friends of the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, New-York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, were also read. — Which Epistles were referred to the consideration of William Jenkins, Thomas Howland, John Wilbur, Rowland Greene, Peleg Aldrich, Rowland Rathbun, Samuel B. Tobey, John Osborne, John M. Earl, John Farnum, William Almy, Samuel F. Hussey, Abner Chase, Isaac Bassett, Stephen Gould, Prince Gardner, Daniel Johnson, Charles D. Hubbs, & Samuel Boyce; who were requested, as way may open for it, to prepare essays of communications to those Meetings respectively, and lay before this at a future sitting.

1831. It appears by the accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings, that they have given the necessary attention to the payment of their respective proportions of Stock as directed last year.

David Buffum, Micah Chace, Stephen Hodges, William Cobb, Uzoa Farnum, Daniel Peirce, and John Brown, are appointed a Committee to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts; consider of a suitable sum to be raised for the service of the ensuing year; also to propose a Treasurer; and report at a future sitting.

By the accounts now received, we are informed that Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with the Mo. Meeting of Salem, in approving the public ministry of Jane Mansfield; that Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with the Mo. Meeting of Dartmouth, in approving the public ministry of Hannah Slade, and with New Bedford Mo. Meeting, in the appointment of Mary Howland to the station of an Elder; that Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting has united with the Mo. Meeting of Vassalborough, in the appointment of Caroline Tobey and Sarah Hacker to the station of Elders, with China Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Ephraim Jones to the same station, and with the same Mo. Meeting, in approving the public ministry of James Jones and Oliver Jepson; that Dover Quarterly Meeting has united with Dover Mo. Meeting, in the appointment of Joseph Hustle and Eli Varney to the station of Elders; and that Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with the Mo. Meeting of Nantucket, in dismissing Gilbert Coffin, from the same station.

Thomas Howland, Benjamin Hoeborn, William Almy, John Hazard, John Warren, Walter Allen, James Tucker, Rowland Greene, Seth Davis, Reuben Brocket, Abraham Shearman, 3d, Jonas Gardner, Thomas Anthony, Daniel Clapp, Abel Collins, Samuel Macey, Daniel Johnson, John Brown, Enoch Reed, Isaac Barnett, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Samuel Hustace, John B. Lang, Jonathan Dennis, Daniel Brayton, John Wilbur, Joseph Tripp, Edward Foster, Prince Gardner, Ebenezer Pope, and Thomas Davis, were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the general state of the Society, together with any subjects connected with its welfare, that they may consider it necessary to lay before this Meeting, and report from time to time, as occasion may require.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

(Afternoon. — Friends again met.)

The Representatives proposed Abraham Shearman, Jun. for Clerk, and John Osborne for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting; which was united with, and they were accordingly appointed to that service.

The subject of the appointment of a Committee to unite with others from the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, as embraced in the following paragraph of the Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Ohio, held in the 9th month, last year, having been spread before this Meeting, was solidly and deliberately considered, and being felt to be a subject intimately affecting the best interests and welfare of the Society, the Meeting, without coming to any decided result in regard to it, referred the further consideration of the proposition to the Committee on general Services, appointed at the morning sitting; who were desired to report thereon at a future sitting.

[Paragraph from the Ohio Epistle. — "The appointment of a Committee

1831. "mittee to unite with others from the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, in the appointment of a General Committee to take into consideration the general interests of the Society, and any subject which may appear to be connected with the prosperity of the body at large, and taken into weighty deliberation. And the Meeting believing it not only desirable "that there should be a more perfect agreement of the Disciplines of the respective Yearly "Meetings, in some of their provisions, but that the occurrence of such an assembly, under "the influence of the Holy Head of the Church, entering into a united exercise for the welfare "of the Society and the support of its Testimonies; and in that Wisdom which he might graciously afford, directing their attention and giving their advice to the Yearly Meetings on any "subject in which the Society possessed a common interest, might tend to strengthen the "bonds of Gospel Fellowship, unite us more closely together as one body, and thus promote "the great objects for which our Meetings for Discipline were originally established; it was, "with much unanimity, concluded to recommend the subject to the consideration of the several "Yearly Meetings, proposing, if the concern should be united with, that they may respectively "appoint Committees to meet in Philadelphia the last second day in the seventh month next "year, for these interesting and important objects. And that they should also take into "consideration, and propose to the different Yearly Meetings, their judgment as to the "times and places of holding the meetings of such General Committees in future, should "such Committees be hereafter appointed."]

See page 207, &c.

The Clerk was requested to have placed upon the Records of this Meeting, the Document entitled "The Testimony of the Society of Friends on the Continent of America — following the records of last year.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third-day afternoon, the 14th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

Having at this Meeting, the company of our beloved friends, Elizabeth Evans, of Philadelphia; Susan R. Smith of Burlington; M. J. Elizabeth Coggeshall, and Mary R. King, of New York; satisfactory Minutes from their respective Meetings, expressive of unity with their ministry and present engagements, were read at this sitting.

Our friends Mary Wistar of Philadelphia, and Susanna Newbold, of Upper Springfield, New Jersey; the latter as companion to Susan R. Smith, are also acceptably with us, and produced satisfactory Minutes from their respective Meetings; which were also read at this sitting.

The Meeting entered upon a consideration of the state of Society, by reading the Queries, and the Answers thereto from the Quarterly Meetings, as far as the fourth inclusive; and then adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth-day morning, the 15th.

Met according to adjournment.

The Meeting resumed the consideration of the state of Society, by reading the remainder of the Queries and the answers there to received. And during this consideration, much solemnity of feeling was spread over the Meeting; and under the covering of which, tender counsel and advice were freely and impressively offered, in the love of the Gospel, by concerned and exercised Friends now with us. — and it is much to be desired, may be so treasured up as to become a means of strengthening and encouraging many minds in the faithful support of our principles and testimonies, and of lessening those deficiencies therein, which have been painfully affecting at the present time.

The following Summary is intended to embrace ~~the substance~~ the substance of the Answers received, viz:

1. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been duly held, except in a few instances, mostly occasioned by the inclemency

1831. ...ery of the weather and interwoven state of the roads. Those on first days appear to have been generally attended by the greater part of Friends; yet there is an evident remissness herein on the part of some of our members, and much deficiency in the due attendance of mid-week meetings and those for discipline. The hour is generally observed. Mostly preserved from unbecoming behaviour, a few instances of sleeping excepted. Some care has been extended in these deficiences. — 2. — Love and unity are in a good degree maintained by most Friends, but appear to be much wanting in some instances. Detraction, with some exceptions, is generally guarded against. Endeavours have been used to end differences when they have appeared. — 3. — Friends are mostly careful to bring up those under their direction in plainness, as queried; also to restrain them from reading pernicious books and from corrupt conversation; and are generally exemplary themselves; while others are too remiss in a faithful discharge of these duties. Great deviations from plainness of speech, as well as of apparel, are apparent in some instances, and a fear is expressed that all are not sufficiently careful in the selection of books. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends' families; yet there appears to be some deficiency herein. — 4. — Friends are generally careful to abstain from the use of spirituous liquors, except for medicine; and mostly careful to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort. Some instances of deviation are referred to in most of the accounts, and are under notice. Moderation appears to be maintained on the occasions referred to. — 5. — The circumstances of the poor appear to be duly attended to, and their necessities relieved. A few children have been placed out, mostly not under the immediate control of Friends. — 6. — Friends appear to be generally careful as respects marriage. In most instances where it has been otherwise, care appears to have been extended. — 7. — Our testimonies embraced in this query appear to be generally maintained. A few exceptions of a military nature are referred to in most of the accounts, and are under the notice of Friends where they have occurred. — 8. — Friends are generally careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, and to attend to the other parts of this query. Yet some exceptions are noticed in two of the accounts rec^d. — 9. — Our records are generally attended to; but, not so fully as appears necessary. Instances of removal without certificate are noticed in most of the accounts, and appear to be under the care of Friends. — 10. — Care is generally taken to deal with offenders in a good degree as queried; yet in some instances the necessity is felt for a more timely and extensive care than has been exercised. Judgment appears to have been placed according to Discipline.

It is proposed by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, that their Meeting which is now held at Falmouth, the 5th day before the first 6th day in the 9th month, be, after the present year, held at Windham, at the same time; which was united with, and the Clerk directed to furnish Falmouth Quarterly Meeting with a copy of this minute.

The Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, and being considered, was satisfactory to this Meeting, & the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof, to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. [It follows.]

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Boarding School Committee, Report, That they have during the past year, endeavoured to promote the objects of their appointment in a general superintendence of the Institution; and think they may inform, that its various concerns have been conducted in accordance with the intention of Friends in its establishment. Meetings for worship have been regularly kept up; and the family preserved in harmony.

The School is continued under the immediate care of Enoch and Lydia Reed, as Superintendents, with the assistance of Stephen & Hannah Gra... Moses A. Cartland, Jeremiah Hacker, and Pliny Earl, jun. are at present employed as Teachers in the Boy's School, and Deborah Ramsdell, Sarah

1831. Fry, and Tamar Fry, on the Girls. Benjamin B. Hussey, Sylvia B. Allen, and Phebe Burgess, have also been employed during a part of the past year. Arrangements are now made with Caroline Cartland to occupy the place of an associate Teacher, and she is expected to enter upon her duties as such in a few days.

The average number of Scholars during the ~~past~~ year has been 128. Their health has been generally good, and their conduct and improvement in their studies have been satisfactory to the Committee.

The accounts of the Treasurer of the School Fund and of the Superintendent, have been received and audited, and the state of the Fund is such, that the Committee think it safe to propose, that children who are members of this Yearly Meeting continue to be admitted at twelve and a half dollars per quarter, and that the privilege of sending children free of expense, be continued to Monthly Meetings, the same as last year.

The subject of extending the branches of education in the School, which was referred to the Committee by the last Yearly Meeting, claimed their early consideration, and they have proceeded in the erection of an addition to the School House, suitable for the accommodation of Scholars who wish to pursue a more extended course of education. A person to have the charge of these branches of learning has not yet been procured, but the Committee entertain a hope, that one suitably qualified, may soon be engaged.

It still continues to be the earnest desire of the Committee, that Friends who place their children in the School should be careful that they are habited in plain attire, and instructed to conform carefully to the rules & regulations of the Institution. And they feel the propriety of again reviving the advice contained in their Report last year, that Friends avoid sending Boys over fourteen years of age to the School, until they have, first obtained the approbation of the Committee that meets at Providence on the third day after the last fifth-day in each month.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Moses Brown,
Alice Rathbun.

Providence,
5 mo. 6, 1831.

The subject of the continuance of the present, or the appointment of a new Committee for the Superintendence and Government of the School, is referred to the consideration of the Committee on general services; who were authorised to report the names of suitable Friends to compose a Committee, should they deem such appointment most advisable.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Friends again met.

The Committee on general services, to which was referred the proposition of Ohio Yearly Meeting for the appointment of Committees from the several Yearly Meetings, as embraced in a previous minute, report,

That having met and seriously deliberated on the proposition for appointing Committees to meet and confer on subjects relating to the general interests of the Society, — they are united in proposing to the Yearly Meeting, to appoint such a Committee, to confer with Committees appointed by other Yearly Meetings, and report the result of the conference at our next Yearly Meeting.

Which being read & deliberately considered, was united with; and the same Committee was requested, to produce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a Committee on behalf of this Meeting.

The situation of the People of Colour under the care of the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina having been introduced to the consideration of this Meeting, by the reading of the following paragraph from the Epistle of that Yearly

1831. Meeting of the 9th month last; and some further information of their peculiar situation having been laid before us, the Friends of South Carolina now with us, the subject deeply arrested the attention of the Meeting, and led to the expression of much sympathy with our Brethren of that Yearly Meeting, as well as with the People of Colour under their care ——— and we appoint Charles Hudson, Reuben Peckham, Harvey Chase, Abial Gardner, William H. Chase, Micajah C. Pratt, Nathan Breede, Benajah Purinton, Isaac R. Gifford, John Howland, Jr. William C. Taber, Thomas Arthur, Charles G. Hubbs, Josiah Marston, Nathan Winslow, Jonathan Shove, Dutee B. Aldrich, Thomas Grover, Lewis Thompson, Thomas Pinkham, Joseph Taber, Daniel Taber, Gideon Smith, Joshua Meader, Joseph Varney, Wm. Hill, to receive from Friends, such sums as they may have freedom to contribute toward their relief; to be appropriated in such way as Friends of South Carolina may judge will most fully conduce to this object, ——— and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

[Paragraph from the North Carolina Epistle. ——— "With respect to the People of Colour under our care, we are still engaged in removing, of them to free Governments, as way opens, and as they are willing to go. ——— Report was made to this Meeting, that 652 persons of colour had been removed; the expense thereof was $12,769 51/100; (about $19. 4 60 cts each;) that there are remaining, under the care of Friends, 402; rating the expense of removing these at twenty dollars each, the cost will be upwards of eight thousand dollars. And also that the remaining people of colour under our care appear to be generally willing, at present, to emigrate to Liberia."]

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, of the past year, were read; and the attention thereby manifested to the subjects committed to them by this Meeting, or that have originated in their own body, is satisfactory to us.

The subject of the appointment of a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, was referred to the Committee on general services, which Committee was requested to bring forward suitable names, should they deem a new appointment most expedient.

We are informed, by the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, (above referred to,) that that Meeting has, in pursuance of the authority heretofore given to it, caused a Meeting-House to be erected on this Meeting's lot of land, fronting on Milton Place, in Boston. The dimensions of the House are sixty feet, by forty feet front. The sides and rear of the building are of brick; the front of hammered Quincy granite; ——— the whole has been finished in a neat and substantial manner; and cost, including the expense of inclosing the lot, and other incidental expenses, the sum of $9,323 14/100; which sum has been paid by the Treasurer of this Meeting, out of funds which came into his hands from the sale of the old Meeting House and lot in Boston. It further appears, that there now remains in the hands of the Treasurer, arising from this source, the sum of $1610 ——; subject, however, to the payment of one other item of expense, not included in the above amount, and which is estimated at about $100; which will leave a balance, arising from the proceeds of the old Meeting-House and lot, of about fifteen hundred Dollars.

The care of the House thus erected, and the proper disposition or investment of the balance, remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, is committed to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The Memorial of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, concerning our beloved friend David Buffum, deceased, was read, & being approved, was directed to be recorded.

1831. Joseph Anthony, Thomas Howland, Charles F. Stubbs, John Osborne, Stephen Gould, and John Farnum were appointed a Committee to prepare, and present at a future sitting, essays of certificates or minutes for our Friends now with us from other Yearly Meetings in this country.

The Meeting then adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 16th. Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

Our beloved Friend, John Wilbur, being set at liberty to perform a religious visit to Friends in Great Britain and Ireland, we appoint William Almy, George Howland, Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, Andrew Nichols, William Jenkins, and Abraham Shearman, Jun.r a Committee to render him, on behalf of this Meeting, any necessary advice or assistance relative to his concern.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, presented the following report:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting,

"We your Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's acc.t find a balance in his hands of two hundred & twenty dollars, 82 cts. We, propose to raise the sum of eight hundred dollars the present year; also propose Wm. Almy, for Treasurer. On behalf of the Committee,

6mo 14, 1831. John Brown."

Which being read and considered, was acceptable to the Meeting; and in conformity therewith, William Almy was appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing; and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of eight Hundred dollars, the sum proposed to be raised.

The Committee on general services, to which that subject was referred, proposed that the following Friends, viz.t

Moses Brown,	Stephen Gould,	Thomas Fry, of Bolton,	Nancy Chase,
William Almy,	David Buffum,		Jon.a Nichols,
Daniel Howland,	Francis Taber,	Silas Earle,	Wm. Mitchell,
Rowland Greene,	Benj.a Mott,	Moses Farnum,	Stephen Jones, Jr.
Edward Cobb,	Jon.a Dennis,	Ahab Arnold,	Joseph Davis,
William Slade,	John Brown,	Isaac Bassett,	Isaac R. Gifford,
Nicholas Longdon,	William Cobb,	Eben.r Pope,	John B. Dockray,
Sam.l F. Hussey,	Thomas Howland,	Thomas Anthony,	Edward Wing,
Elijah Chase,	Stephen A. Chase,	William Reynolds,	Moses Aldrich,
John Wilbur,	Rowland Rathbun,	Josiah Jones,	Jon.a Congdon,
William Jenkins,	John Osborn,	Sam.l B. Tobey,	Arnold Congdon,
Walter Allen,	Daniel Clapp,	Daniel Johnson,	James N. Fry,
Joseph Metcalf,	A. Shearman, Jr.	Cromwell Barnard,	Samuel Boyce,
James Tucker,	Thomas Jones,	George Mitchell,	John Meader,
John Farnum,	Clark Shove,	George Howland,	and
Benj.a Freeborn,	Corn.s Howland,	Jon.a Tucker,	David Shove,

should be appointed a Committee for the government and superintendence of the the Boarding School; which being considered, was united with; and they, with the addition of such Friends as may be named by the Women's Meeting, were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing; or till another appointment; and requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The same Committee proposed that the following Friends should constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, viz.

Moses Brown,	Thomas Howland,	James Tucker,	Abr.m Shearman, Jr.
William Almy,	Benj.a Freeborn,	Rowland Rathbun,	Stephen Jones,
Rowland Greene,	Obadiah Davis,	Edw.d Cobb,	Isaac Bassett,

1831.

Estes Newhall,	John Brown,	Caleb Nichols
Cornelius Howland,	Stephen A. Chase	Samuel F. Hussey
Walter Allen,	Daniel Johnson	Perez Peck,
Daniel Howland	James A Fry,	William Reynolds,
Francis Tuber,	Nicholas Congdon,	Prince Gardner,
William Cobb,	John Osborne,	Moses Farnum,
Joshua Meader,	Wm. Jenkins,	Moses Sturkie
Thomas Anthony,	Jon.a Dennis,	Joseph Metcalf,
John Warren,	Stephen Gould,	Andrew Nichols
Matthew Pairinton,	David Buffum	Benjamin Fry,
Joshua Jenkins,	William Slade,	Ebenezer Pope
George Mitchell,	Abijah Chase,	
John Farnum,	Oliver Chase,	

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which being considered, was united with, and they were accordingly appointed to that service, for the year ensuing, or till another appointment, to act therein with the authority heretofore given to said Meeting.

William Almy, Rowland Greene, Samuel F. Hussey, Thomas Rowland, Wm. Jenkins, Stephen Gould, John Warren, Thomas Anthony, Cornelius Howland, and Abraham Shearman, Junr. (being proposed by the Committee to which that subject was referred,) were appointed a Committee on behalf of this Yearly Meeting to confer with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, agreeably to the minute adopted by this Meeting yesterday afternoon.

The Clerk was directed to furnish the Friends now with us from other Yearly Meetings in this country, with minutes agreeable to essays proposed.

The Committee on Indian concerns presented the following

Report.

"To the Yearly Meeting to be held at Newport.

The Committee appointed last year to encourage the Penobscot tribe of Indians in agriculture, and the pursuit of such objects as would have a tendency to domesticate their habits, and increase their comforts in civilized life, Report; That they have given some attention to the objects of their appointment within the past year; and although the improvement of the Indians is small; yet on a comparative view of their present situation, with what it was at the time when Friends first turned their attention to them, we are enabled to state, that whereas at that time they possessed no dwelling better than the Indian camp, there is now belonging to individuals of the tribe, sixteen framed houses, several of them finished, and some of them furnished with beds, chairs and other furniture. They have also three framed barns. And whereas at that time they possessed no domestic animals, they had when the Committee last visited them, eight oxen, five cows, three horses, eleven sheep, some swine, and young stock.

The attention of some of them to agriculture has increased, and they raise some of the various kinds of produce usually cultivated by their white neighbours. The donation made by the Yearly Meeting, last year, (except so much as would meet the expenses of those who visited them,) was expended in nails, and furnished in such proportions as was deemed proper, to those who were encouraged to follow the example set by some of their brethren, in building; and your Committee cannot but think that the little which has from time to time been handed them from the Yearly Meeting, has had an encouraging effect.

In the estimation of the Committee it is an object to encourage their children in useful learning, to which a few of them seem rather inclining; and

1831. one Lad who was at School at Bangor the past winter, we understand is making some proficiency.

On behalf of the Committee,

Portland, 1st of 6mo. 1831. Edward Cobb."

which being read and considered, was satisfactory to this Meeting, and encouraging us to believe that a gradual improvement in the condition of this people, and an advancement from the habits of savage, towards the enjoyment of the comforts of civilized life, has resulted from the care that has been extended towards them for several years past. The Friends now under appointment, with the addition of Ebenezer Pope, were continued for another year, and requested to give such further attention to the objects the Yearly Meeting has heretofore had in view, as way may open for; and report next year. Our Treasurer was requested to pay to John Warren the sum of fifty Dollars, towards defraying such expenses as the Committee may think it necessary to incur in carrying into effect the concern of this Meeting.

We are informed by Baltimore Yearly Meeting, that the following additional Correspondents have been appointed since last year, viz.

Thomas Bowen and James Macicat, for Dunnings Creek Mo. Meeting.

John Griffith, jun. and Mahlon Scholfield, for Hopewell Mo. Meeting.

One of whom is to sign in addition to the usual signatures of the Clerks, all minutes & certificates issued by these Meetings for ministers and members of our religious society.

_____ by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, — that they have appointed as Correspondents.

For Philadelphia Quarter, Caleb Pierce and Charles Allen.

Abington, — Abraham Keyser, Germantown,

Concord, —— John Bullock, Wilmington, Del.

Caln, ... James Embree Bradford, Chester Co.

Western, ... Solomon Sharpless, Coatsville, Chester Co.

Burlington, .. Simon Gilham, Mansfield, Burlington Co. in place of William Newbold, deceased

Haddonfield, .. Uriah Borton, Evesham, N.J.

_____ by New York Yearly Meeting, that

David Allen, of Charleston, Montgomery Co. N.Y. is appointed Correspondent for Duanesburgh Mo. Meeting. Nathan Bishop, of New Hartford, Oneida Co. N.Y. Correspondent for Bridgewater Mo. Meeting, ... James Brown, of Parks hill, Westchester Co. N.Y. Correspondent for Amawalk Mo. Meeting.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth day morning, the 17th.

Friends again met.

The Committee appointed, as by a previous minute, to receive subscriptions to aid Friends of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, in promoting the removal to Free Governments, of the People of Colour under their care, Report that there has been subscribed for this purpose, the sum of thirteen hundred and forty-five dollars —— which they are requested to pay over to William Almy, William Jenkins and John Farnham, who will remit this amount, with such further sums, if, any, as may be contributed to this object, to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina, and report their attention thereto, next year.

And the Committee who were appointed to receive subscriptions for the above object, were requested to spread the subject before Friends in other several Quarterly Meetings, and if any further sums are received, forward the amount to the Friends above named, that it may also be remitted, and an account given of it next year.

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1831.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed as by minute of last year, to visit such of the Quarterly, Monthly, and particular Meetings, and individual members, should occasion require, as way might open for, now produced the following Report:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The joint Committee to visit subordinate Meetings, &c. report, That we have attended to our appointment, and some of our number have, at different times, visited those Meetings and Individuals, where it appeared most necessary, and laboured in the ability afforded for their help; and although we have ground to believe that our labours have not been altogether in vain, we think the continuance of a similar Committee may contribute to usefulness.

On behalf of the Committee,

Benjamin Freeborn,

Elizabeth Wing.

Newport, 17th of 6mo. 1831.

which being read and solidly considered, was accepted, and under a prevalent sense of the necessity of a continued care on the part of this Meeting, the Friends now under appointment were continued in that service, and encouraged to labour, as way may open, and ability be afforded, in promoting the concern of the Yearly Meeting; and report next year.

Epistles & Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and to each of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, being read, were approved, and directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, with such alterations of a verbal nature, as may appear necessary, signed by him on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our minutes not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

The consideration of the subject of printing the minutes of this Meeting, was referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Under a reverent and grateful sense of the continued mercies of the Great Head of the Church, in having enabled us to act upon the various concerns of this Meeting, in much unanimity & brotherly love, and to bring them to a satisfactory result, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island in the Sixth month next.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

Compared,
A. S. Jr.

Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island from the 12th to the 17th inclusive, of Sixth month, 1831.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the last year has been received by us, the reading of which, in this our annual assembly, has tended renewedly to quicken our feelings of brotherly love, and to strengthen the bonds by which we are bound together as one family, united in one true and living faith.

Our Meeting this year is attended by a body as large a number of our members as we have witnessed on any former occasion; and we have the very acceptable company of many brethren and sisters from our neighbouring Yearly Meetings, as also that of Jonathan & Hannah Chapman Backhouse from your land.

We have at this time been engaged in the consideration of several subjects deeply interesting and important to our religious Society, amongst which we may mention that of a proposition from the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ohio for convening in Philadelphia, in the 7th month next, a general Committee from the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, which resulted, with great unanimity, in the appointment of a Committee of Men and Women Friends for that purpose.

By the Report of the Committee having the Superintendance of our Boarding School, it appears that that Institution continues to merit the expectations entertained by Friends in its establishment; and arrangements are now in progress for extending the advantages of education to the higher branches of useful learning.

The preservation of our dear Children from the pollutions of the world, and their education in the principles and testimonies of our Society, we feel to be amongst our most sacred obligations, and we are comforted in believing, that there is an increasing concern amongst our members, to stand individually clear in this particular.

With affectionate regard, we remain, Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, &c.

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To Ireland.

Being assembled at our annual Meeting, our dear brethren of Ireland have been affectionately brought to our remembrance; and although we have received no Epistle from you at this time, yet we feel disposed in Gospel love to salute you; and in this feeling how animating is the reflection, that notwithstanding we are scattered over a wide extent of country, and separated by the mighty deep, still as a Society we are bound together by the closest ties, even those of religious fellowship and Christian love, and are engaged to hold fast the same holy Faith, which is expressed by the Apostle to be "the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen." If the mind be duly brought to understand the nature of true faith, it will necessarily be humble and abased; acknowledging its natural

depravity, and the utter impossibility of our obtaining salvation by any merit of our own, or by any other means than those provided in infinite mercy, for the restoration of a fallen world — For, saith the apostle, "by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." — but this by no means excuses from the necessity of good works, by which it is declared, faith is perfected — and "they which believe in God," are enjoined "to maintain good works."

The very great importance of assembling for the performance of Divine worship, is a subject that has engaged the close attention of this Meeting; and much exercise and travail have been felt, that every individual professing our name, may cheerfully, yea, joyfully, yield the time usually set apart for religious Meetings; and when assembled, endeavour to seek unto the Lord for ability to perform acceptable worship. — When we remember the condescending goodness of our Heavenly Father, in permitting us to approach his presence, and put up our petitions to Him, — when we reflect on his gracious promise to those that ask according to his will, — how is the heart melted in gratitude, and bowed in thanksgiving before Him. If this view of the subject were kept sufficiently before our minds, with how much alacrity of heart should we go up to the house of the Lord, presenting "our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable," which is indeed "our reasonable service."

Finally, dear Brethren, notwithstanding the various turnings and overturnings that may be going on around us in the world, — notwithstanding wars and fightings, and civil commotions prevail, may we be mercifully favoured to hold fast the integrity of our faith, without wavering; "that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, junr. Clerk.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

We are again permitted to meet in our Annual Assembly to wait upon the Lord, and in his fear to transact such business as may come before us; and we humbly trust we at this time have had cause to acknowledge that the overshadowing of the wing of ancient goodness has been mercifully extended to us. — We have been favoured with the attendance of many of our Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose company & services have been acceptable to us.

In order to discharge properly any religious duty, we have felt renewedly the necessity of a close and undeviating attention to the leadings and direction of the Spirit of Truth, as it is inwardly revealed in the heart, and earnestly do we desire that every member of the Church may keep his eye single unto its pointings. ——

May we all duly prize the inestimable privilege of approaching the Throne of Grace with full confidence that "the Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in Truth, — and that "if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us." But how necessary is it in order thus availingly to approach his foot-

clear, that all self estimation is first laid low, and that in abasedness of soul we acknowledge, "we know not what we should pray for as we ought" — then may we experience that "the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities."

Among the interesting subjects claiming the attention of our Meetings from year to year, is that of an epistolary correspondence with our Brethren. We have been renewedly convinced at this time, of the advantage of this practice, having been comforted by the Gospel salutations of our distant Friends, and brought impressively to feel that we are one people wherever situated, engaged in the support of the same great and holy cause. — We would affectionately recommend this interesting consideration to the serious reflection of every member of our religious Society; the importance of which cannot be too often revived, or too seriously enforced. When we have taken a view of the vast extent of territory, over which our Society is scattered; of the various means employed by the unwearied adversary, to scatter in Jacob, and divide in Israel; when we have contemplated the devastation already produced in various Meetings on this Continent, and the many perils to which we are now subjected; it has appeared to us, that a more extensive development of feelings and views of our different Meetings, under the guidance and direction of the Great Shepherd of Israel, might tend to strengthen and preserve us. The proposition contained in the Epistle from Ohio Yearly Meeting to appoint a Committee to unite with similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings in a consideration of subjects connected with the welfare of Society, was considered in a weighty and deliberate manner, and being cordially united with, we have appointed a Committee to meet our Friends accordingly.

The importance of a guarded education of the youth of our Society, free from the contaminating influence of an exposure to the world, has often claimed the solid attention of this Meeting, and we are encouraged to believe, that our Boarding School has afforded the means to many of our youth, of acquiring in a guarded manner, much useful information; and by extending the branches taught in that Institution, which we contemplate doing; we trust still greater usefulness may result to our members.

We fully reciprocate the sentiment contained in your acceptable Epistle, of the importance of a faithful maintenance of our religious testimonies, in the support of which our predecessors suffered much "contumely and affliction;" and firmly believing that these testimonies had their origin in the Truth, we are fully persuaded, that those who abide under its direction will feel individually, the necessity of maintaining them.

With the salutation of love, we are, Your Friends & Brethren, Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clerk.

To New-York.

Dear Friends,

We salute you in the love of the Gospel, thankful that we are thus permitted to mingle with you in the feeling of brotherly love and in the unity of the Christian Faith. — We have been at this time strengthened in the belief, that the Great Head of the Church, Christ Jesus our Lord, is yet mindful of us,

1831. and that unto those who in faith confess him Lord, to the glory of God the Father, he will be strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present help in every needful time.

Our Meeting has at this time been large, and attended by many of our youth, some of whom, by their tenderness and solid deportment, have given evidence that they are under the forming hand of Christ; and a living travail has been felt that these, wherever situated, may be encouraged to bow their necks unto his yoke.

The religious guarded education of our dear Children, has from time to time engaged our attention; and by the Report of our Boarding School Committee it appears that the Institution under their care continues to afford to many, the means of acquiring much useful knowledge.

The proposition contained in the Epistle from Ohio Yearly Meeting, to appoint Committees from each of the Yearly Meetings, to convene for the purpose of deliberating on subjects connected with the general welfare of Society, received our solid consideration, and being united with, resulted in the appointment of a Committee to meet our Friends for this purpose.

We have received your acceptable Epistle of the present year, on the reading of which you were renewedly brought into remembrance, and we have desired that our epistolary intercourse may continue to be a means of more closely uniting us in the bonds of Christian fellowship. May we, dear Friends, on all occasions cultivate the spirit of charity and love, bearing in remembrance the declaration of our dear Lord, when he said: "by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

We have had at this time the acceptable company of many of our beloved Friends, some of whom are from your Yearly Meeting.

We are your Friends & Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Among the many favors we have at this time to acknowledge, is that of your acceptable communication of the 10th. month last year. When we are favored, in infinite mercy, to keep our minds under the direction and counsel of Him, who alone is able to qualify us to perform acceptable service, an intercourse of this kind, we believe, may be continued to our mutual advantage.

Our Meeting has been fully attended, and we humbly trust, the Great Head of the Church has owned it by his presence, through whose condescending goodness and mercy, we have been favored to transact the various concerns that have come before us in much harmony & brotherly love.

The subject of a faithful maintenance of our religious principles and testimonies, has claimed the earnest attention of this Meeting, and much interesting and affectionate labour has been bestowed, in which we have had the services of several valuable Friends from other Yearly Meetings, who are acceptably with us at this time.

The guarded education of our dear Children has been a subject of deep interest for several years past. The report of the Committee, who have charge of our Boarding School at Providence, affords encouragement of continued usefulness from that Institution.

The proposition from Ohio Yearly Meeting to hold a meeting of

representatives from the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, has been united with by this Meeting, and a Committee appointed for that purpose.

With the renewed salutation of love, we are Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Under the fresh extending of the love of the Gospel which we have cause thankfully to acknowledge has been witnessed amongst us in this our annual assembly, we affectionately salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last.

In turning our attention towards our distant brethren, our minds have been impressed with a lively sense of the goodness and tender mercy of our heavenly Father, in giving a measure of that Holy Spirit which unites the hearts of those of the same precious faith, however remotely situated, giving them to feel that it is indeed good and pleasant for brethren to dwell together in unity. Our minds have been introduced into near sympathy and tender feeling with you, on account of the difficulties & discouragements which your remote and scattered situation occasion. Yet notwithstanding, it is a day of deep exercise and trial, a day of mourning and of girding with sackcloth, to the dedicated followers of the Lamb, yet we have the animating and consoling hope, that he who dwelleth in the high and holy place, will mercifully condescend to look down upon the low estate of his church and people, and comfort the mourners in Zion, saviour the souls of the humble and of the contrite ones. & beautify the meek with his salvation.

We have felt a tender solicitude for the youth of our Society, that they may be preserved from the dangers and temptations to which they are exposed, in an age so addicted to licentiousness both in principle and practice; that they may grow and more live in the preserving fear of the Lord, and thereby be enabled to come up in the footsteps of those worthies, who are removed from works to rewards.

The proposition from Ohio Yearly Meeting, to appoint a Committee to confer with Committees from other Yearly Meetings on subjects connected with the general interest and welfare of our Society, has been fully united with by this Meeting, and a Committee appointed.

The information given us that you had come to the satisfactory conclusion that the time had not yet arrived when it would be proper for your Meeting to cease to exist, has been very comforting and animating to us.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of a number of our beloved Friends from Europe, and from our neighbouring Yearly Meetings, and through the merciful extension of Divine aid, have been enabled to transact the weighty concerns of Society in much unanimity and brotherly love.

We affectionately bid you Farewell, and are

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

by Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

To

1831.

To South Carolina.

Dear Friends.

We have received at this time, your acceptable Epistle of the last year, and are renewedly made thankful in believing that our intercourse in this way is calculated to unite us more closely in the bonds of Christian fellowship.

The important concerns of a Yearly Meeting have occupied our serious attention; and on this occasion we have been favoured with the attendance of a large number of our own Members, and with the company of many of our dear Friends from distant and neighbouring Yearly Meetings.

The several sittings of our Assembly have been measurably owned by Him, who is the Great Head of the Church, and the subjects under consideration have been disposed of, after solid deliberation, in much harmony and condescension. And although we are sensible of deficiency, we trust there is cause for encouragement that we may be preserved as a people, and that our principles and testimonies may be transmitted unimpaired to future generations. But, dear Friends, in order that this may be the case, how necessary is it to keep on the watch, - lest the enemy come in and sow tares.

If our honest endeavours are, to keep on the simple ground of the Gospel; rendering cheerful obedience to the manifestations of Truth in our own minds; viewing things according to the nature of them; discouraging in ourselves the workings of a heated imagination; cultivating true Christian faith and charity; then indeed may we confidently hope to be preserved a Christian church — whose light will continue to shine before men; that others seeing our good works, may be encouraged to follow them; and thus we be made instrumental in promoting the sacred cause of Truth in the earth.

The deficiencies marked in the answers to the Queries called forth much exercise and labour. The youth, the middle aged, & those in the decline of life, were admonished, encouraged, and consoled; the great importance of faithfully maintaining our Christian principles and testimonies enforced, and the glorious result of such faithfulness held up encouragingly to our view.

Among the important subjects which have engaged the attention of this Meeting, has been the proposition from Ohio Yearly Meeting, for the appointment of Committees to meet in general conference. The proposition received our deliberate consideration, and was approved with great unanimity; and a Committee appointed to meet with Committees from other Yearly Meetings.

The benefits resulting from the establishment of our Boarding School continue to be manifest; and we are encouraged to believe that our youth will become better qualified to be useful members of our religious society, and more useful to others in their day & generation.

The situation of the people of colour under your care, claimed and awakened the attention and sympathy of this Meeting, and a lively interest was manifested to assist in relieving Friends from their present tried situation as it respects their connection with them.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shoemaker, Jun. Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

We have cause to commemorate the mercies of a gracious Creator, in again permitting us to assemble for the solemn purpose of transacting the business of the Church, in this our annual Assembly. And we have been enabled to discharge of the important subjects that have come before us, in much condescension and harmony.

In taking a view of the state of Society, as exhibited by our several Quarterly Meetings, deficiencies are still apparent; and have elicited the expression of much Christian admonition and counsel.

We unite with you in feelings of commiseration and sympathy towards the Indian natives, and may inform that our Yearly Meeting is still extending care to some of those within our borders.

Having received Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and the general & particular Epistle from London, we are comforted through them in believing that as the great cause of Truth and righteousness in the earth is one cause, so those who are engaged in it are one in the indissoluble bonds of Christian love.

Your proposition respecting the appointment of a Committee to meet with others that might be appointed by the several Yearly Meetings composing the body of Friends in this country, to consult together on subjects connected with the general interests of Society, having received our weighty and deliberate consideration, was united with, and a Committee appointed by us to meet with the Committees of other Yearly Meetings.

We have had very acceptably at this time, the company of our friends Elisha Bates, Jared Peckover, and Henry Stanton, from within the limits of your Yearly Meeting.

Under the influence, as we humbly trust, of that Spirit which breathes Peace on earth and good will towards men, we subscribe ourselves. Your affectionate Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r, Clerk.

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Being once more assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity, we would reverently acknowledge, that we believe the Great Author of all our sure mercies has condescended to be near us.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have been favoured with the company and services of many dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings.

In looking over the state of Society as set forth by our subordinate Meetings, we must, with you acknowledge deficiencies; yet we are encouraged in believing, that there is a living remnant among us, who are earnestly endeavouring to maintain our ancient principles and testimonies.

We have, at this time, been made renewedly to feel the necessity of a diligent attendance of Meetings for divine worship, there to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, and acceptable, which as the Apostle declares, is our reasonable service. And in

1831. reflecting upon this important duty, we have been led to see the need of watchfulness, least by assembling with our minds cumbered with worldly cares, we should not receive the blessing intended for us. We believe that when this duty is performed in a manner pleasing to Him who is the crown of our assemblies, that he will in his own way, make known what he is from time to time requiring at our hands, and that we shall be strengthened to support and maintain our other Christian testimonies.

We have had at this time, the company of many of our young friends, and believe there are those among them, who are made sensible of the necessity of living a life more consistent with the high profession we are making. May these, wherever they are situated, be encouraged by their elder brethren to be "sober and vigilant," and to come up in the way of their duty.

Your Epistle of last year has been acceptably read; and by which we perceive that the subject of a more guarded education of the dear youth is receiving your attention. The importance of educating our Children in the higher branches of learning, without having them exposed improperly to the world, has for many years claimed our attention, and has resulted in adding to our Boarding School a building to be occupied for that purpose, and the School will be in operation as soon as practicable.

The proposition for appointing a Committee to convene with others from other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, on the general interests of Society, has been weightily spread before us; and believing that it was calculated to strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship, we have united with it, and appointed a Committee accordingly.

The information respecting your care over the people of colour, and of the Indian natives, has been cordial to our feelings. Our Committee on Indian concerns has presented an interesting report, by which it appears that those who have been the objects of our care have made some progress towards civilization; and we are encouraged to continue our care towards them.

With the salutation of love, we are Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

Compared. A.S. Jr.

1832. At a Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Rhode Island beginning with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth on First Day the 10th. and at Newport for Discipline on 2d Day morning the 11th of Sixth month, 1832.

Accounts being received from all our Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are,

For Rhode Island: Daniel Howland, Thomas Howland, Matthew Purinton, Andrew Nichols, David Buffum, William Reynolds, Edmund Chace, David Thom — For Salem, Eseck Newhall, Jonathan Nichols, John Page, Edward Gove, jun. David Osborn — Sandwich, Wrixham Davis, Prince Gaither, Samuel Slade, Francis Taber, Abraham Russell, Dartmouth, Peleg Macy, Stephen Rogers — Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Stephen Jones, William Purinton, Thomas Little — Smithfield, Obadiah Smith, Bernard Fowler, Thomas Grover, James N. Fry — Wassalboro, John Warren, Edmund Ratcliff, Caleb Nichols, Ebenezer Pope, James Jones, Abraham Potter — Dover, John D. Lang, Eli Varney, John Meader, and Olney Thompson. — Whose names being called, they were all present.

We have at this Meeting, the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, Hallon Hoggatt, of Springfield monthly meeting, North Carolina, and Joseph Bowne, of Westerly monthly meeting, State of New York; who produced satisfactory certificates of unity with their ministry and present religious engagements, from their respective monthly and Quarterly Meetings. — We have also the acceptable company of our friends Zacharias Coffin, companion to our friend Hallon Hoggatt; Robert S. Holloway, companion to our friend Ann Taylor, & Benjamin Parker, who accompanies his wife Margaret Parker, in her present religious visit, — and who severally produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends in these engagements.

The general Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, in the 5th month last year, with its Epistle addressed to this Meeting; an Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, and one from each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends in America, except North Carolina, were received, and read to our edification and comfort. Which Epistles were referred to the consideration of Thomas Howland, William Jenkins, William Almy, Thomas Fry, of Dover, Moses Hartland, Samuel R. Tobey, Stephen Hughes, Eseck Newhall, John Meader, Josiah Jones, John Osborne, John Warren, John Furnum, Stephen Gould, Benjamin Fry, Edward Cobb, John D. Lang, Calvin Shepherd, Caleb Nichols, and Thomas Jones; who are requested, as way may open for it, to prepare essays of communications to those Meetings respectively, and lay before this or a future sitting.

It appears that all our Quarterly Meetings have paid or have given the necessary direction for the payment of their respective proportions of stock, as requested last year. — David Buffum, Jonathan Nichols, Prince Gaither, William Purinton

1832. Walter Allen, Moses Austin and Eli Varney, were appointed a Committee to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, consisting of a sum suitable to be raised, for the service of the ensuing year, and propose a Treasurer — to report at a future sitting.

By the accounts now received we are informed, that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Swanzey Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Theophilus Shove, and with South-Kingstown Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Eunice Fowler, to the station of Elders; also with R. Island Monthly Meeting, in releasing David Rodman from the same station — that Lincoln Quarterly Meeting has united with Smithfield Monthly Meeting in approving the public ministry of Mehetabel Folsom, and of Elizabeth Gove — and with Salem Monthly Meeting in displacing Isaac Bassett from the station of an Elder — that Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with Dartmouth Monthly Meeting, in approving the public Ministry of Mary Davis, and with Hartford, in the appointment of Samuel Slade to the station of an Elder — that Nassaltow Quarterly Meeting has united with Sidney M°. Meeting in the appointment of Oliver Wing, and with Nassaltow M°. Meeting in the appointment of Edmund Bates to the station of Elders; and with the latter M°. Meeting, in approving the public Ministry of Thomas Pinkham and Cornelius Douglas, — and that Dover Quarterly Meeting has united with Sandwich M°. Meeting, in approving the public Ministry of Anna Varney.

Falmouth, Nassaltow, and Dover Quarterly Meetings propose for our consideration, the subject of removing this Meeting to some more central place.

Daniel Howland, John Mosher, Edward Wing, Stephen Jones, Asa Thomson, jun. John Warren, Jonathan Fry, Abijah Chase, William Wing, Clement Ratliff, William Jenkins, Cornelius Howland, Benjamin Freeborn, John Osborn, Stephen Rogers, James Tucker, Oliver Chase, Estes Newhall, Edmund Gove, William Swinton, John Page, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, Abel Robbins, Prince Gardner, Thomas Howland, Francis Taber, Moses Mosher, Thomas Anthony, Caleb Nichols, Nicholas Congdon, Andrew Nichols, Nathan Breed, Joseph Howland, of Nassaltow, Moses Austin, Joshua Jenkins, Thomas Jones, Edward Cobb, Elijah Pope, and Ebenezer Pope, — were appointed ~~a Committee~~ a Committee to take into consideration the general state of the Society, with any subjects connected with its welfare, that they may consider it necessary should claim the attention of this Meeting, and report thereon, from time to time, as occasion may require.

The above proposition from Falmouth, Dover, and Nassaltow Quarterly Meetings was referred to the consideration of this Committee.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met.

The Epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina was received and read at this sitting, and referred to the Committee on the Correspondence.

The Committee appointed by this Meeting last year, to meet and confer with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, at Philadelphia, in the Seventh Month last, presented the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee appointed last year to join in conference with Committees from the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, report, that in the 7th month last, most of us met in Philadelphia with Committees from the Yearly Meetings of Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, and Ohio, and agreed on a report to the Meetings we represented, — which we herewith present.

On behalf of the Committee,

Stephen Gould,

Lydia Read."

Newport, 6th mo. 11, 1832.

[Report, above referred to.]

"To the Yearly Meetings of New-England, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana.

"The Committee appointed by the several Yearly Meetings, report that agreeably to their appointments, representatives from the above mentioned Yearly Meetings, (except Indiana, the minute from which has not been received,) assembled in Philadelphia the 25th of the 7th month, 1831, and being favoured to experience a united and cementing exercise, for the preservation of the body at large; various important subjects, deeply affecting the common interests of the society, and the support of its testimonies, were brought into view, as demanding the attention of Friends. But, feeling an earnest desire that all the Yearly Meetings, (by their representatives,) so far as may be practicable, may be united in the consideration of subjects vitally connected with the welfare of the body and the advancement of its testimonies, we have united in the conclusion, under existing circumstances, to defer acting on these subjects.

"By the proposition of Ohio Yearly Meeting, & virtually by the minutes of the other Yearly Meetings which have united with that proposition, it becomes our duty to propose the time and place for the meeting of the General Committee, should such appointments hereafter be made, by the several Yearly Meetings

On

1832. On turning our attention to this subject, we have believed, that from the central situation of Baltimore, it might be proposed, as the most proper of meeting, and that the last second day in the seventh month next year, might be a suitable time, for the Committees of such Yearly Meetings as may unite with the measure, to meet and deliberate on such subjects, as may be proposed to their consideration by the several Yearly Meetings; it being understood, that such General Committee will be at liberty only to propose the result of their deliberations, while the respective Yearly Meetings will retain the power of approving, or rejecting such propositions.

"We have thankfully to acknowledge, that during our several sittings, much unity and harmony have prevailed, and while our minds have thus unitedly been dipped into a fresh feeling of the importance of the concern, for which we are now assembled, we have been comforted in the renewed evidences which have been afforded us, that this concern is owned by the Holy Head of the church; and that as there is an humble dependence on the unfoldings of his counsel, which will lead in the way of harmony and brotherly love, it will contribute to the prosperity of the body at large, and the increase of its usefulness as a Christian community, in holding up to the world a united testimony to the practical excellence of the Gospel.

"Signed by direction and on behalf of the General Committee, held in Philadelphia, the 25th and the 26th of the 7th month, 1831, by

"Elisha Bates, Clerk."

... which, with the Report of the General Committee, being read, the subject as thus introduced, was renewedly felt to be one of much interest, and intimately connected with the welfare of the Society at large; and being deliberately considered, it was concluded, with much unanimity, to appoint a Committee to meet in conference with the Committees of other Yearly Meetings at Baltimore, in the ensuing month; and it was referred to the Committee on the State of the Society, appointed this morning, to propose at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a Committee on the part of this Meeting; and also to propose such subjects, affecting the general interests of the Society, as in their judgment may usefully claim the consideration of the general Committee when met.

Adjourned to the fourth hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third day afternoon, the 17th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Boarding School Committee report, That they have, during the past year, superintended the Institution, and have cause to believe that it has been conducted in a good degree as contemplated by Friends in its establishment. Meetings have been regularly held as heretofore. The average number of scholars has been one hundred & sixty three.

The

The School has been continued under the care of Enoch and Lydia Treadwell as Superintendents, with the assistance of Stephen and Hannah Gould. Moses A. Cartland, Asling Hart, jun. and Jonathan Vernon have been employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Deborah Ramsdell, Mary Grissom, and Caroline Cartland in the Girls. Moses B. Lockwood and Isabella Horton have also been engaged as assistants, during a part of the year.

The accounts of the Treasurer of this School Fund and of the Superintendent have been received and audited. The state of the fund is such that the Committee think it safest to propose, that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one scholar, six months, free of expense, and that the price for scholars generally be continued the same as last year.

The Committee believe it best to propose for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, the recommending to Friends to endeavour to send their Children to the School, as nearly as may be at the following periods, viz. at the time of our Yearly Meeting, or in the first week of the second, fifth, eighth and eleventh months. And they would further propose, that Children should not be sent for a less time than six months, unless under peculiar circumstances the consent of the sub-committee be obtained for a less term.

Since our last Report, the department of the School for instruction in the Languages and some of the higher branches of science has been commenced under the care of Samuel J. Gummere, whose services have been performed acceptably to this Committee. The terms for the admission of Scholars, who are members of our Yearly Meeting into this department, are One hundred dollars per annum, exclusive of Books and Stationary, and no Scholar is admitted for a less term than one year, nor until permission shall have been granted for such admission by the sub committee.

In reviewing the state of the School for the past year, the Committee have cause to acknowledge with thankfulness, that the Family and Scholars have been generally preserved in health.

Signed by appointment and on behalf of the School Committee, held at Providence, 3th. Month 4th. 1832, by

Moses Brown,
Elizabeth Wing.

and the propositions therein submitted to the consideration of this Meeting were referred to Samuel B. Taber, Stephen Gould, Edmund Chase, Estes Newhall, Micajah C. Pratt, John Page, Edward P. Little, George Howland, Samuel Macey, Josiah Jones, Thomas Tuttle, Peter Morril, Seth Kelley, James M. Fry, Chad Smith, Abraham Potter, James Jones, Thomas Fry, Lindley M. Hoag, Eli Varney, and Stephen A. Chase, — who were requested to report their judgment thereon at a future sitting.

The Meeting then proceeded to consider the state of Society, as brought into view by the answers to the Queries, and the deficiencies which they manifest as still existing within our borders, were painfully affecting to many exercised minds, and led to the expression, in gospel love, of much pertinent and feeling counsel and advice, and of encouragement to greater dedication and faithfulness in the support of our various testimonies. The Committee on the Correspondence was requested, if way opened for it, to prepare, and present at a future sitting, an essay of a communication

1832. munication to our subordinate Meetings, embracing some of the subjects that have now engaged our attention.

The following Summary is meant to embrace the substance of the Answers received, — viz. —

1. It appears that all our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been attended, with a few instances of exception, as to two or three small Meetings. Those on first days by most of our members, while others are too neglectful of this duty. A deficiency in many, in the attendance of midweek Meetings and those for discipline, remains sorrowfully to be seen. — The hour is mostly observed. Generally careful to guard against unbecoming behaviour a few instances of sleeping excepted. Most of the accounts mention an attention of care in regard to these deficiences. — 2. Love and unity appear to be generally maintained and detraction guarded against, yet some deficiency in these respects is acknowledged in several of the accounts. — Care is taken to end differences. — 3. We believe there is a concern with many Friends to bring up those under their care in plainness, to discourage the reading of pernicious books, and to restrain them from corrupt conversation: and are exemplary the ministers; not a departure from our testimonies with respect to plainness, of speech, behaviour and apparel is apparent in many, and we fear that parents and others are not sufficiently careful to be consistent with our profession in fulfilling the requisitions of this query. We believe that the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most families, but not so frequently in some as would be best. — 4. Friends we believe are generally careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors; yet there are a few exceptions, and care extended. — The unnecessary frequenting of taverns, & places of public resort, appears also to be mostly avoided; and moderation maintained on the occasions referred to in the query. — 5. The circumstances of the poor appear to be attended to, in the several requisitions of this Query. — A few instances of placing Children from among Friends have occurred, and appear to be under notice. — 6. A concern is manifest with most Friends that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our Discipline; yet there are some instances of keeping company and marrying out of society, which appear to be mostly under notice. — 7. — Our testimonies in these respects, are generally maintained. — Yet a few deviations of a military nature have occured; and in a few instances, our testimony against Priests wages, appears to have been violated; in regard to which some care has been taken. — 8. Care appears to be generally prevalent, in regard to the several requisitions of this query, with a few exceptions as to punctuality, and a timely settlement of accounts. — 9. Our records appear to be generally attended to, with some exceptions as to births and deaths. A few removals without certificate are under notice. — 10. — Care is taken to deal with offenders, in a good degree as queried; yet some of the accounts acknowledge a falling short in the timely exercise of this duty. — Judgment is placed according to Discipline.

Adjourned to the 11th hour, tomorrow morning.

Fourth-Day morning, the 13th.

Friends again met according to adjournment.

Our beloved friend, Hannah C. Backhouse, of Great Britain who attended our last Yearly Meeting, being again my way to be with us, the certificates of the unity of her Friends at home, with her ministry and concern to perform a visit in Gospel love to Friends in this country, produced to our last Yearly Meeting, were again read at this sitting, to the satisfaction of many who were not then present. Our dear friend, Jonathan Backhouse, whose concern to accompany his beloved Wife, tho' a part at least of her religious engagements in this country, is stated in those Certificates, and who was acceptably with us last year, we are now informed has recently returned to Europe.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were read, and the attention thereby manifested to have been given by that Meeting to the various subjects that have claimed its attention, is satisfactory to this Meeting. It was referred to the Committee on general services, to consider of and, produce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they think may suitably compose a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.

The following Report was now presented, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting, — The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the propositions contained in the Report of the Boarding School Committee, with regard to a periodical admission of Scholars, and to the requisition that Children be sent to the School for a term of time not less than six months, unless under peculiar circumstances, Report, that they have carefully considered the propositions, and are united in opinion, that the adoption of them will contribute to the advantage of the School, and will not injuriously affect the convenience of parents.

On behalf of the Committee,

New Port, 6 mo. 13th, 1832. Samuel Boyd Tobey,

Mary A. Collins."

— Which being read and considered,

The Report of the Boarding School Committee was, in conformity therewith, accepted, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies of said Report to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. And it being thought suitable that a new appointment should be made of a Committee for the government and superintendence of the School, for the year ensuing, the Committee on general services was requested to produce at a future sitting, the names of suitable Friends to compose such Committee.

Thomas Rowland, John Warren, John Meader, John Osborne, William King, John Farnum, Rowland Greene Joseph Metcalf, George Mitchell, William Jenkins, Edward Cobb, & Abm. Shearman, jr. being proposed by the Committee to which that subject was referred, with such Friends as may be added by the Women's Meeting, appointed a Committee on behalf of this Yearly Meeting, to confer with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, at Baltimore, on the last 2d day in the seventh month ensuing — to take into consideration such subjects affecting the general interests and welfare of the Society at large, as may be proposed by any of the Yearly Meetings.

1832 Meeting, and to report to this and the other Yearly Meetings the result of their deliberations thereon; it being understood that, in accordance with the views of the Committee which met at Philadelphia last year, each Yearly Meeting will retain the power of approving or rejecting such propositions as may be made by the general Committee. Our Committee to make report to this Meeting next year.

Friends of Indiana Yearly Meeting having informed us by their Epistle, that the subject of the Abolition of Slavery has been solidly considered by that Meeting, and that they apprehend the time has nearly, if not fully come, to petition the General Government on behalf of the much oppressed African race, in which they request our co-operation; and it appearing from the Records of our Meeting for sufferings, that a communication has been addressed to it, by the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting, and which is referred by minute, to our consideration, — the Committee on general service was requested to consider of, and report at a future sitting, what, if any, it may be proper or safe for this Meeting to take, relative to this concern, at the present time.

This Meeting then adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon: Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, presented the following Report, viz. "To the Yearly Meeting now sitting. —

"According to appointment we have examined the Treasurer's accounts with the accompanying vouchers, and find a balance in his hands of $231 33/100 and propose the sum of nine hundred dollars to be raised for the service of the Meeting for 1833; and William Hoag wishing to be released, we have conferred with, and concluded to propose John Farnum as Treasurer for the year ensuing. — All which is submitted to the Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,

David Bullock"

Nantucket, 6 m° 13 th. 1832.

— which being read, was acceptable to the Meeting: and in consequence therewith, John Farnum was appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing. It was concluded to raise nine hundred dollars, the sum proposed; and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to the Treasurer their usual proportions of this sum.

The Committee appointed last year to remit to North Carolina Yearly Meeting, the amount allotted to relieve the people of colour under their charge, Report, "that the amount raised was duly remitted, and the receipt thereof acknowledged; they also inform that they have more recently forwarded to their Treasurer, Forty dollars, which was subsequently received from Friends within the limits of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting." Signed!

William Jenkins, } For the
John Farnum, } Committee.

Nantucket, 6 m° 12. 1832.

Which is satisfactory to this Meeting.

The Committee on Indian Concerns presented the following Report, viz. "To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Committee appointed to encourage the Penobscot Tribe of Indians in agriculture, domesticate their habits, and increase

1 on this subject was received.

their complete civilized life, have given some attention to their objects within the last year: and have to state that their improvement if they have made any, has been very small. The cause we believe for it is that a misunderstanding had arisen between the governor and lieutenant governor of their tribe, their several offices claiming to be the first, and the tribe being nearly equally divided; & their attention being much occupied on this subject, has kept them together, leaving them little time and less inclination to attend to their agricultural pursuits. They have also a [Roman Catholic] priest with them, which makes it difficult for Friends at present to have much influence over them. There has been very little building and of course the money raised last year is now mostly in the hands of the Committee, to be given as their judgment that it will not be necessary to increase the fund the present year.

On behalf of the Committee, Edward Cobb.

Newport, 6th mo. 12th, 1832.

Which report being read and considered, it was concluded, notwithstanding the discouraging prospects of success, that it present to continue the Committee now under appointment, [viz. Edward Cobb, John Watson, Caleb Nichols, Stephen Jones, of Bassalboro, Noah Read, Rowland Greene, Wm. Jenkins, Elijah Chase, & Eben. Tefft,] for another year, and that they proceed as way may open for it, to endeavour to promote the objects the Yearly Meeting has heretofore had in view in this concern.

The subject of printing the minutes of this Yearly Meeting having several times been brought before us in preceding years, and being now revived by the reading of a minute of the Meeting for Sufferings, to which Meeting the subject was committed last year, it was the conclusion of the Meeting, after deliberate consideration, that a Committee should be appointed to assist the Clerk in revising and transcribing the minutes of the present year, and in making such Extracts therefrom, as in their judgment may be usefully sent down; to have a sufficient number of copies printed to furnish one to each of our Quarterly, Monthly & Preparative Meetings, and call on our Treasurer for payment of the expense.

Cornelius Howland, Francis Tabor, James Tucker, Isaac Howland, Edward Wing, Abraham Tucker, & John Howland, jr. were appointed to the above service.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 14th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on general services, to which that subject was referred, proposed that the following Friends should be appointed a Committee on the part of this Meeting for the government and superintendence of the Boarding School, viz.

Moses Brown, William Almy, Daniel Howland, Rowland Greene, Edward Cobb, Nicholas Congdon, Samuel F. Harvey, Elijah Chase, John Mitchell, William Jenkins, Walter Allen, Joseph Whitney, James Tucker, John Paine, Wm. Jenkins, Hebron Gould, David Buffum, Francis Tabor, Benj. Mott, Jon. Dennis, John Brown, Wm. Cobb, Thomas Howland, Stephen A. Chase, Rowland Hazard, John Osborne, Daniel Clapp, Wm. Thurman, 2d, Thomas Jones, Charles Howe, Cornelius Howland, Thomas Fry of Dutton, Silas Earle, Moses Paine, Wm. Arnold, Ebenezer Joyce, Thomas Anthony, Wm. Reynolds, Josiah Jones, Samuel B. Tobey, Daniel Johnson, Cromwell Barnard, George Mitchell, George Howland, Abraham Tucker, Harvey Lowe, Jonathan Nichols, Wm. Mitchell, Stephen Jones, jun., Joseph Davis, Isaac N. Gifford, John W. Peckham, Edward Wing, Moses Aldrich, Jon. Congdon, Arnold Congdon, James N. Arny, Samuel Joyce, John Meader, David Shove, Elijah Soper, Daniel Wing, and Reuben J. Peckham.

1832. which was united with, and they, with the addition of such Friends as may be added by the Women's Meeting were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment be requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The same Committee proposed that the following Friends should constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, viz:

Moses Brown.	Cornelius Howland.	John Brown.	Oliver Chase.
William Almy.	Walter Allen.	Stephen H. Chase.	Caleb Nichols.
Rowland Green.	Daniel Howland.	Daniel Johnson.	Samuel F. Hussey.
Thomas Howland.	Francis Scott.	James A. Fry.	Peter Peck.
Benj.a Freeborn.	William Wood.	Benjamin Fry.	William Reynolds.
Obadiah Davis.	Joshua Sneader.	Nicholas Congdon.	Rufus Gardner.
James Tweed.	Thomas Arnold.	John Osborne.	Moses Farnum.
Rowland Robbins.	John Mason.	William Jenkins.	Moses Starkie.
Edward Cobb.	Matthew Purinton.	Jonathan Dennis.	Joseph Metcalf.
Abr.m Shearman, 2d.	Joshua Jenkins.	Stephen Gould.	Andrew Nichols.
Stephen Jones.	Geo.e Mitchell.	Levi Bullock.	Ebenezer Pope.
Peter Arnold.	Jno.s Mason.	Josiah Chase.	

~~which was united with, and they were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment, to act therein with the minutes heretofore given to said Meeting.~~

The Committee on the general concerns of the Yearly Meeting offered the following propositions, viz:—

"That the Committee of Conference appointed by this Yearly Meeting should bring before the consideration of the General Conference:

"1. What regulations or proceedings should be observed in settling up and laying down Yearly Meetings.

"2. The consentaneous discipline of the several Yearly Meetings in relation to the publication of doctrinal and historical works which might affect the reputation of the bodies at large.

"3. That of the greater uniformity of the Disciplines of different Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and particularly in regard to the manner of granting Certificates for Friends who may be engaged to travel in the Ministry."

Which being read and considered, were severally united with.

The Committee also report, that on considering the proposition from Indiana Yearly Meeting, on the subject of Slavery, they were seriously impressed with the magnitude and great importance of the subject, and propose for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, that it would be safe to let that proposition go before the general Committee of Conference. Which was also united with.

The subject of the proposed Conference having been felt from the time that it was first introduced to our consideration, to be one of much importance to the interests and welfare of the Society, it is our desire, that the Committee appointed on the part of this Meeting, may, before leaving this place, meet, and unitedly confer together on the objects of their appointment; and that, should any of the Committee be prevented by want of health, or other cause, from giving their personal attendance at Baltimore, that they have the privilege of communicating their views on any of the subjects proposed for the consideration of the General Committee, through the medium of any of our Committee that may attend.

"The joint committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed in 1830 and continued last year, to visit subordinate Meetings and individuals & members, should occasion require, and as way might open ——— presented the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.—— The Committee to visit Quarterly, Monthly and other Meetings, appointed at the last Yearly Meeting, report, that they have given some attention to their appointment: and although weightiness has resulted from it, and having into consideration the state of Society, it is their judgment that the appointment of a Committee for similar services would be useful at the present time.

On behalf of the Committee,

Benj.ª Ferris.
Hannah Collins."

Newport 6m.o 13.th 1832.

which being read and considered, was united with: and the Meeting being impressed with the necessity of a further extension of care in this way, it was referred to the Committee on general services, to produce at a future sitting, the name of Friends to compose a similar Committee for these purposes.

An essay of a communication to our subordinate Meetings, prepared by the Committee to which that subject was referred, being now read, was united with and it was thereupon directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly, Monthly & Preparative Meetings. (For which, see Minutes.)

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare and present at our next sitting, essays of indorsements or minutes for our Friends, now with us, from other Yearly Meetings in this country.

The subject of the School having again been revised at this sitting, the Clerk was directed to annex to the Report of the Committee now to be sent down, the following extracts from advices approved by this Meeting in 1825, viz.

"The School Committee, in the discharge of the important trust confided to them by the Yearly Meeting, have found it necessary from time to time to recur to the great object which the Yearly Meeting in its wisdom & the Friends who have contributed to the funds of the Institution, have had in view in the establishment of the School, & which they think cannot be better expressed than in the language which accompanied the bequest of one of its earliest friends and most liberal benefactors: that our children and youth "may receive a religious guarded education, free from the contaminating influence of the vain, fashionable and "which leads young minds from the simplicity of the truth, and that meek "and quiet spirit exhibited by our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, "whom we profess to follow.

"It was in accordance with these views, that the Committee were induced, in the 2d Mo. 1819, soon after the School was in operation, to forward the following Minute to the several Monthly Meetings, viz.

"It has appeared necessary, from experience gained since the "opening of the Institution, that more general circumspection should be "extended in sending Children to the School. And to procure the "order necessary to carry the objects of the Yearly Meeting into more com- "plete effect, it is recommended that each Monthly Meeting appoint "a few suitable Friends (whom, if deemed right, it might be well to) "made by Parents or Guardians of Children who are desirous of placing

1832. "them at the School; that the Friends so appointed consider it their "duty not only to enjoin that the Children come in a plain dress and "in the use of the plain Scripture language, but that they are of good "habits; and that they give a few lines to that import, for the in- "formation of the Superintendents and Instructors at the School.

"The Committee, now feel it to be their duty to recommend to the Monthly Meetings a greater extension of care to these objects, and that the appointment of such Committees be received by them, to act in connection with the members of this Committee, if any, who may reside within the limits of each Monthly Meeting."

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth day morning, the 15th.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the general concerns of the Society to which the proposition of Falmouth Quarterly and Dover Quarterly Meetings relative to the removal of this Meeting to some more central place, was referred for consideration, report that the subject has claimed their attention, and resulted in the conclusion to propose to the Yearly Meeting, the appointment of a Committee to consist of members from each Quarterly Meeting, to take the subject under further consideration, and report to our next Yearly Meeting. which was united with — and the following Friends were appointed to this service, viz. Thomas Howland, William Almy, David Buffum, Mathias Read, Elijah Brase, John Page, James Tucker, Mathew Rogers, Cornelius Howland, William Pointon, Stephen Jones, Thomas Jones, Thomas Fry, John Osborne, Bernard Fowler, Clement Radcliff, John Warren, Moses Starkie, Eli Varney, John Meader, and John D. Lang.

William Almy, William Jenkins, Francis Tabor, James Tucker, Abraham Sherman, Junr. John Page, Thomas Jones, John Warren, Moses Starkie, Abel Collins, Estes Newhall, Eli Varney, John Meader, Benjamin Freeborn, Samuel Macy, Cornelius Howland, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, Walter Allen, James N. Fry, Caleb Nichols, Elijah Coe, Thomas Howland, Stephen Jones, Joshua Jenkins, Benjamin Buffinton, and John Osborne being proposed by the Committee on the state of the Society, were appointed, to unite with a similar Committee of the Woman's Meeting, in visiting such of our Quarterly, Monthly, & particular Meetings, and individual members should occasion require, as way may open for, and to endeavour to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles and testimonies, and in the preservation of love and unity, by imparting such counsel and advice as they may see needful & in need of, and the Committee be enabled in best wisdom to afford; and report to this Meeting next year.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends from abroad, with minutes agreeable to essays proposed.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this continent, being read and considered, were approved, and directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings.

[illegible] our minutes not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

Having been mercifully favoured with a time to [illegible] retrieved circumstances of Society that have come before us with much unanimity, and in the spirit of Brotherly love and condescension to bring them to a satisfactory result; under a grateful sense [illegible] we conclude, proposing to meet again at this place, in the sixth month next, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Abraham Sharman, Jun.r Clerk.

[Communication referred to, page 359.]

From our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, from the 10th to the 15th inclusive, of the 6th mo. 1832.

To our several Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings.

Dear Friends,

The reading of the answers to the Queries received from our several Quarterly Meetings, has introduced our minds into a deep feeling exercise in beholding the many and various departures from our profession herein brought to view. And in particular we have lamented the sorrowful want of faithfulness in the attendance of our religious Meetings. When we consider the duty of assembling ourselves together for public worship to Almighty God, in the light of a public acknowledgment of our belief in Him, and in the gracious revelation of his will through his dear Son, our Lord, what vital importance does the performance of this duty assume. In a feeling of Gospel love, and of our responsibility to Him who hath called us to be a people, and in some measure as we humbly trust, qualified us through his mercy to labour for his cause, let us revere for the serious and solemn consideration of our brethren in religious profession, that weighty language of our blessed Lord, when in that prayed state: "He that shall confess me before men, him will I confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men, shall be denied before the angels of God." We are confirmed in the belief, that as the love of the things of time and the fleeting enjoyments of this world shall be lessened among us, as the love of God shall take its place in our hearts, we shall be more concerned faithfully to perform this important duty, and in regularly assembling with our brethren for public worship, and diligently waiting before Him, we shall graciously experience our strength in Him to be renewed; whereby we shall be enabled to withstand the assaults of temptation, and our souls be refreshed with his life giving presence. Let us, then, we tenderly exhort, be more and more alive to the great importance of this solemn & interesting duty.

And as the love of God increases and abounds among us, love unto one another will also prevail. Bound together by the sacred ties of Gospel fellowship, our brethren will become correspondingly near to our best feelings, and that heavenly charity which suffereth long and is kind, will become more and more our covering. And O, that Friends every where were duly impressed with the necessity of preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and avoiding doubtful disputations, and seeking not to be wise above that which is written;

1832. humbly to believe in the all important truths of the ever blessed Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: that God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life; that he came into the world, as testified in the Holy Scriptures; that he went about doing good, and manifesting his Divine power for the good of men; that he died for our sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us unto God; that he rose again for our justification, and ever liveth to make intercession for us; that he is God over all blessed forever. These all important truths, as we humbly seek to be established therein, will indeed cement us together, and enable us through faith, to bear unbroken our testimony to the mercy and goodness of our heavenly Father. Thus will true unity and religious fellowship be experienced.

And being thus established, how according to Divine will these testimonies which we are called upon to bear, become in our view. For, being measurably redeemed from the love of the world, we shall be concerned to make the adorning of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God a great price, rather than the ornaments of the world, and be dressed in the simplicity which becometh the Gospel of Christ. The giving way to the temptation so abundantly offered by the spirit of the present day, to which may be appropriately termed, Light reading, we have been induced to believe, has had its influence in producing, in many instances, a deviation from the simplicity of our profession, not only in faith, but practice - indisposing the mind for serious reflection, giving it a distaste for the perusal of more solid and useful works, and secretly, but gradually, undermining that firm reliance upon Divine aid, which can alone sustain the mind, in the hour of trial and temptation, and rightly bear it up amid the many vicissitudes of time.

The practice of a daily reading of the Holy Scriptures, with our hearts turned unto Him, who can alone rightly open them to our understanding, and apply them effectually to the heart, and the feelings brought before us. And as we reverently believe, that these invaluable writings, according to their own testimony, are able to make us wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Jesus Christ; how exceedingly important that we neglect not this means which in the mercy of God has been vouchsafed to us for our [illegible], correction and instruction in righteousness. And we are confirmed in the belief, that as parents and heads of families are concerned daily to call around them the objects of their care, and [illegible] fervent hearts for the divine blessing upon their endeavours, to read to them a portion of the sacred volume, allowing a space for [illegible] of soul to God, a great blessing will be experienced. The truths revealed in the Scriptures will become increasingly interesting and precious in our view, and in that of our children & dependents, and the cause of truth and righteousness be furthered & promoted. We therefore recommend and tenderly exhort Friends to this practice, and greatly desire their encouragement therein.

And we fervently desire that all in profession with us, may be renewedly stirred up to more faithfulness and watchfulness in the cause of Christ, remembering that the time is short, and that we are enjoined to work while the day lasts, for the night cometh wherein no man can work.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

EXTRACTS

From the Minutes

OF THE

NEW-ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING.

At a Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held on Rhode-Island, beginning with Publick Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First-Day, the 10th, and at Newport, for Discipline, on

Second-Day morning, the 14th of the 6th month, 1832.

Accounts being received from all our Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are,

For *Rhode-Island*, Daniel Howland, Thomas Howland, Matthew Purinton, Andrew Nichols, David Buffum, William Reynolds, Edmund Chase, David Sheve——For *Salem*, Estes Newhall, Jonathan Nichols, John Page, Edward Gove, jun. Daniel Osborn——*Sandwich*, Abraham Davis, Prince Gardner, Samuel Slade, Francis Taber, Abraham Russell, (of Dartmouth.) Peleg Macey, Stephen Rogers. ——*Falmouth*, Thomas Jones, William Purinton, Stephen Jones, Thomas Tuttle.——*Smithfield*, Chad Smith, Bernard Fowler, Thomas Grover, James N. Fry.——*Vassalborough*, John Warren, Clement Ratcliff, Caleb Nichols, Ebenezer Pope, James Jones, Abraham Potter. ——*Dover*, John D. Lang, Eli Varney, John Meader, and Olney Thompson.

Whose names being called, they were all present.

We have at this meeting the acceptable company of our dearly beloved friends, Mahlon Hoggatt, of Springfield monthly meeting, North-Carolina, and Joseph Bowne, of Butternuts monthly meeting, state of New-York; who produced satisfactory certificates of unity with their ministry and present religious engagements, from their respective monthly and quarterly meetings.—We have also the acceptable company of our friends Zacharias Coffin, companion to our friend Mahlon Hoggatt; Robert S. Holloway, companion to our friend Ann Taylor; and Benjamin Parker, who accompanies his wife, Margaret Parker, in her present religious visit; —and who severally produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends in these engagements:

The general Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, in the fifth month, last year, with its Epistle addressed to this Meeting; an Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, and one from each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends in America, except North-Carolina, were received, and read, to our edification and comfort. —Which Epistles were referred to the consideration of Thomas Howland, William Jenkins, William Almy, Thomas Fry, of Bolton, Moses A. Cartland, Samuel B. Tobey, Stephen A. Chase, Estes Newhall, John Meader, Isaiah Jones, John Osborne, John Warren, John Farnum, Stephen Gould, Benjamin Fry, Edward Cobb, John D. Lang, Calvin Shepherd, Caleb Nichols, and Thomas Jones; who are requested, as way may open for it, to prepare essays of communications to those Meetings, respectively, and lay before this at a future sitting.

It appears that all our Quarterly Meetings have paid, or have given the necessary direction for the payment of their respective proportions of Stock, as requested last year. David Buffum, Jonathan Nichols, Prince Gardner, William Purinton, Walter Allen, Moses Starkie, and Eli Varney, were appointed a Committee to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and propose a Treasurer—to report at a future sitting.

Falmouth, Vassalborough, and Dover Quarterly Meetings, propose for our consideration, the subject of removing this Meeting to some more central place.

Daniel Howland, John Meader, Edward Wing, Stephen Jones, Olney Thomson, jun. John Warren, Jonathan Fry, Abijah Chase, William Almy, Clement Ratcliff, William Jenkins, Cornelius Howland, Benjamin Freeborn, John Osborne, Stephen Rogers, James Tucker, Oliver Chase, Estes Newhall, Edmund Gove, William Purinton, John Page, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, Abel Collins, Prince Gardner, Thomas Howland, Francis Taber, Moses Aldrich, Thomas Anthony, Caleb Nichols, Nicholas Congdon, Andrew Nichols, Nathan Breed, Joseph Howland, of Vassalboro', Moses Starkie, Joshua Jenkins, Thomas Jones, Edward Cobb, Elijah Pope, and Ebenezer Pope, were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the general state of the Society, with any subjects connected with its welfare, that they may consider it necessary should claim the attention of this Meeting, and report thereon, from time to time, as occasion may require.

The above proposition from Falmouth, Dover, and Vassalboro' Quarterly Meetings was referred to the consideration of this Committee.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met.

Daniel Howland, on behalf of the Representatives, proposed Abraham Shearman, jun. for Clerk, and John Osborne for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting, which was united with, and they were accordingly appointed.

Having at this meeting the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Ann Taylor, of Short Creek Monthly Meeting, Ohio, and Margaret Parker, of Shrewsbury Monthly Meeting, New-Jersey,—satisfactory certificates of the unity of their Friends with their ministry and present religious concern, were read at this sitting. Our friends Elizabeth Wood, companion to Ann Taylor, Sybil Allinson, companion to Margaret Parker, and Eliza P. Kirkbride, companion to Hannah C. Backhouse, are also acceptably with us; and satisfactory minutes of their respective Meetings were now read.

An Epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of North-Carolina, was received and read at this sitting, and referred to the Committee on the Correspondence.

The Committee appointed by this Meeting last year, to meet and confer with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, at Philadelphia, in the Seventh month last, presented, with a Report, stating the attendance of most of their number, the following Report of the General Committee of Conference, addressed to the several Yearly Meetings by which Committees had been appointed, viz.

"*To the Yearly Meetings of New-England, Baltimore, Virginia, North-Carolina, Ohio, and Indiana.*

"The Committee appointed by the several Yearly Meetings, report, that, agreeably to their appointments, representatives from the above mentioned Yearly Meetings, (except Indiana, the minute from which has not been received) assembled in Philadelphia, the 25th of the 7th mo. 1831, and being favored to experience a united and cementing exercise, for the preservation of the body at large, various important subjects, deeply affecting the common interests of the society, and the support of its testimonies, were brought into view, as demanding the attention of Friends. But, feeling an earnest desire that all the Yearly Meetings, (by their representatives,) so far as may be practicable, may be united in the consideration of subjects vitally connected with the welfare of the body and the advancement of its testimonies, we have united in the conclusion, under existing circumstances, to defer acting on these subjects.

"By the proposition of Ohio Yearly Meeting, and virtually by the minutes of the other Yearly meetings, which have united with that proposition, it becomes our duty to propose the time and place for the meeting of the General Committee, should such appointments hereafter be made, by the several Yearly Meetings. On turning our attention to this subject, we have believed, that from the central situation of Baltimore, it might be proposed as the next place of meeting, and that the last

second day in the seventh month next year, might be a suitable time, for the committees of such Yearly Meetings as may unite with the measure, to meet and deliberate on such subjects as may be proposed to their consideration by the several Yearly Meetings; it being understood, that such General Committee will be at liberty only to propose the result of their deliberations, while the respective Yearly Meetings will retain the power of approving, or rejecting such propositions.

"We have thankfully to acknowledge, that during our several sittings, much unity and harmony have prevailed; and while our minds have thus unitedly been dipped into a fresh feeling of the importance of the concern, for which we are now assembled, we have been comforted in the renewed evidences which have been afforded us, that this concern is owned by the Holy Head of the church; and that as there is an humble dependence on the unfoldings of his counsel, which will lead in the way of harmony and brotherly love, it will contribute to the prosperity of the body at large, and the increase of its usefulness as a Christian community, in holding up to the world a united testimony to the practical excellence of the gospel.

"Signed by direction and on behalf of the general Committee, held in Philadelphia, the 25th and the 26th of the 7th month, 1831, by

"ELISHA BATES, *Clerk.*"

Which being read, the subject as thus introduced was renewedly felt to be one of much interest, and intimately connected with the welfare of the Society at large; and being deliberately considered, it was concluded, with much unanimity, to appoint a Committee to meet in conference with the Committees of other Yearly Meetings at Baltimore, in the ensuing month; and it was referred to the Committee on the state of the Society, appointed this morning, to propose at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a Committee on the part of this Meeting; and also to propose such subjects, affecting the general interests of the Society, as in their judgment may usefully claim the consideration of the general Committee when met.

Adjourned to the fourth hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third-day afternoon, the 12th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

The following Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, viz.

TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

The Boarding School Committee report, That they have, during the past year, superintended the Institution, and have cause to believe that it has been conducted in good degree as contemplated by Friends in its establishment. Meetings have been regularly kept up as heretofore. The average number of scholars has been one hundred and sixty-three.

The School has been continued under the care of Enoch and Lydia Breed as Superintendents, with the assistance of Stephen and Hannah Gould. Moses A. Cartland, Pliny Earl, jun. and Jonathan Slocum

have been employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Deborah Ramsdell, Mary Griscom, and Caroline Cartland, in the Girls'. Moses B. Lockwood and Isabella Horton have also been engaged as assistants, during a part of the year.

The accounts of the Treasurer of the School Fund and of the Superintendent have been received and audited. The state of the Fund is such, that the Committee think it safest to propose, that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one scholar, *six* months, free of expense, and that the price for Scholars generally be continued the same as last year.

The Committee believe it best to propose for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, the recommending to Friends to endeavor to send their children to the School, as nearly as may be at the following periods, viz. *at the time of our Yearly Meeting*, or in the *first week* of the *second, fifth, eighth* and *eleventh* months. And they would further propose, that children should not be sent for a less time than six months; unless under peculiar circumstances, the consent of the sub-committee be obtained for a less term.

Since our last Report, the department of the School for instruction in the Languages and some of the higher branches of Science has been commenced under the care of Samuel J. Gummere, whose services have been performed acceptably to this Committee. The terms for the admission of Scholars, who are members of our Yearly Meeting, into this department, are One Hundred Dollars per annum, exclusive of Books and Stationary, and no Scholar is admitted for a less term than one year, nor until permission shall have been granted for such admission by the sub-committee.

In reviewing the state of the School for the past year, the Committee have cause to acknowledge with thankfulness, that the Family and Scholars have been generally preserved in health.

Signed by appointment and on behalf of the School Committee, held at Providence, 5th month 4th, 1832, by

MOSES BROWN,
ELIZABETH WING.

and the propositions therein submitted to the consideration of this Meeting were referred to Samuel B. Tobey, Stephen Gould, Edmund Chase, Estes Newhall, Micajah C. Pratt, John Page, Edward P. Little, George Howland, Samuel Macey, Isaiah Jones, Thomas Tuttle, Peter Morril, Seth Kelley, James N. Fry, Chad Smith, Abraham Potter, James Jones, Thomas Fry, Lindley M. Hoag, Eli Varney, and Stephen A. Chase,—who were requested to report their judgment thereon at a future sitting.

The Meeting then proceeded to consider the state of Society, as brought into view by the answers to the Queries; and the deficiencies which they manifest as still existing within our borders, were painfully affecting to many exercised minds, and led to the expression, in gospel love, of much pertinent and feeling counsel and advice, and of encouragement to greater dedication and faithfulness in the support of our various testimonies. The Committee on the Correspondence was requested, if way opened for it, to prepare, and present at

a future sitting, an essay of a communication to our subordinate Meetings, embracing some of the subjects that have now engaged our attention.

Adjourned to the 11th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth-day morning, the 13th.

Friends again met according to adjournment.

Our beloved friend, Hannah C. Backhouse, of Great-Britain, who attended our last Yearly Meeting, being again very acceptably with us, the certificates of the unity of her Friends at home, with her ministry and concern to perform a visit in Gospel love to Friends in this country, produced to our last Yearly Meeting, were again read at this sitting, to the satisfaction of many who were not then present.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were read, and the attention thereby manifested to have been given by that Meeting to the various subjects that have claimed its attention, is satisfactory to this Meeting. It was referred to the Committee on general services, to consider of and produce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they think may suitably compose a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing. [This Committee, at a subsequent sitting, proposed that Moses Brown, William Almy, Edward Cobb, and others, should constitute a Meeting for Sufferings; which was united with, and they were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment, to act therein with the authority heretofore given to said Meeting.]

The following Report was now presented, viz.

"*To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.*—The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the propositions contained in the Report of the Boarding School Committee, with regard to a periodical admission of Scholars, and to the requisition that children be sent to the School for a term of time not less than six months, unless under peculiar circumstances, report, that they have carefully considered these propositions, and are united in opinion, that the adoption of them will contribute to the advantage of the School, and will not injuriously affect the convenience of parents.

On behalf of the Committee, SAMUEL BOYD TOBEY,
Newport, 6 mo. 13th, 1832. MARY A. COLLINS."

—Which being read and considered, the Report of the Boarding School Committee was, in conformity therewith, accepted, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies of said Report to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. And it being thought desirable that a new appointment should be made of a Committee for the government and superintendence of the

School, for the year ensuing, the Committee on general services was requested to produce at a future sitting the names of suitable Friends to compose such Committee.

Thomas Howland, John Warren, John Meader, John Osborne, William Almy, John Farnum, Rowland Greene, Joseph Metcalf, George Mitchell, William Jenkins, Edward Cobb, and Abraham Shearman, jun. being proposed by the Committee to which that subject was referred, are, [with such Friends as may be added by the Women's Meeting,] appointed a Committee on behalf of this Yearly Meeting, to confer with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, at Baltimore, on the last 2d day in the seventh month ensuing—to take into consideration such subjects, affecting the general interests and welfare of the Society at large, as may be proposed by any of the Yearly Meetings;—and to report to this, and the other Yearly Meetings represented, the result of their deliberations thereon; it being understood, that, in accordance with the views of the Committee which met at Philadelphia last year, each Yearly Meeting will retain the power of approving or rejecting such propositions as may be made by the general Committee. Our Committee to make report to this Meeting next year.

Friends of Indiana Yearly Meeting having informed us, by their Epistle, that the subject of the Abolition of Slavery has been solidly considered by that Meeting, and that they apprehend the time has nearly, if not fully come, to petition the General Government on behalf of the much oppressed African race, in which they request our co-operation; and it appearing from the records of our Meeting for Sufferings, that a communication on this interesting subject has been addressed to it, by the Meeting for Sufferings of Indiana Yearly Meeting, and which is referred by minute, to our consideration,—the Committee on general services was requested to consider of, and report, at a future sitting, what steps, if any, it may be proper or safe for this Meeting to take, relative to this concern, at the present time.

[At a subsequent sitting, the Committee reported, 'That on considering the proposition from Indiana Yearly Meeting, they were seriously impressed with the magnitude and great importance of the subject, and proposed for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, that it would be safe to let that proposition go before the general Committee of Conference;' which was united with.]

The Meeting then adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, presented the following Report, viz.

"*To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.*—According to appointment we have examined the Treasurer's accounts, with the accompanying vouchers, and find a balance in his hands of $221,23, and propose the sum of nine hundred dollars to be raised for the service of the Meeting for 1832; and William Almy wishing to be released, we have conferred with, and concluded to propose John Farnum as Treasurer for the year ensuing. All which is submitted to the Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee, DAVID BUFFUM."

Newport, 6 mo. 13th, 1832.

which being read, was acceptable to the Meeting; and in conformity therewith, John Farnum was appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing. It was concluded to raise nine hundred dollars, the sum proposed; and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to the Treasurer their usual proportions of this sum.

The Committee appointed last year to remit to North-Carolina Yearly Meeting the amount collected to relieve the people of colour under their charge, Report,

"That the amount raised was duly remitted, and the receipt thereof acknowledged; they also inform, that they have more recently forwarded to their Treasurer, forty dollars, which was subsequently received from Friends within the limits of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting.

WILLIAM JENKINS,

Newport, 6 mo. 12th, 1832. JOHN FARNUM,

for the Committee."

Which is satisfactory to this Meeting.

The Committee on Indian Concerns presented the following Report, viz.

"*To the Yearly Meeting.*—The Committee appointed to encourage the Penobscot tribe of Indians in agriculture, domesticate their habits, and increase their comforts in civilized life, have given some attention to these objects within the past year, and have to state that their improvement, if they have made any, has been very small. The cause we assign for it, is, that a misunderstanding had arisen between the governor and lieutenant governor of their tribe, their second officer claiming to be the first, and the tribe being nearly equally divided; and their attention being much occupied on this subject, has kept them together, leaving them little time and less inclination to attend to their agricultural pursuits. They have also a [Roman Catholic] Priest with them, which makes it difficult for Friends, at present, to have much influence over them. There has been very little building, and of course the money raised last year is now mostly in the hands of the Committee, who give it as their judgment, that it will not be necessary to increase the fund the present year.

On behalf of the Committee, EDWARD COBB.

Newport, 6th mo. 12th, 1832.

Which Report being read and considered, it was concluded, notwithstanding the discouraging prospects of usefulness that it presents, to continue the Committee now under appointment, [viz. Edward Cobb, John Warren, Caleb Nichols, Stephen Jones, of Vassalboro', Noah Read, Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, Abijah Chase, and Ebenezer Pope,] for another year, and that they proceed, as way may open for it, to endeavour to promote the objects the Yearly Meeting has heretofore had in view in this concern.

The subject of printing the minutes of this Yearly Meeting having several times been brought before us, in preceding years, and being now revived by the reading of a minute of the Meeting for Sufferings, to which Meeting the subject was committed last year, it was the conclusion of the Meeting, after deliberate consideration, that a Committee should be appointed to assist the Clerk in revising and transcribing the minutes of the present year, and in making such Extracts therefrom, as in their judgment may be usefully sent down; to have a sufficient number of copies printed to furnish one to each of our *Quarterly*, *Monthly* and *Preparative* Meetings, and call on our Treasurer for payment of the expense.

Cornelius Howland, Francis Taber, James Tucker, George Howland, Edward Wing, Abraham Tucker, and John Howland, jun. were appointed to the above service.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth-day afternoon, the 14th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on general services, to which that subject was referred, proposed that the following Friends should be appointed a Committee on the part of this Meeting for the government and superintendence of the Boarding School, viz.

Moses Brown, William Almy, Daniel Howland, Rowland Greene, Edward Cobb, Nicholas Congdon, Samuel F. Hussey, Abijah Chase, John Wilbur, William Jenkins, Walter Allen, Joseph Metcalf, James Tucker, John Farnum, Benjamin Freeborn, Stephen Gould, David Buffum, Francis Taber, Benjamin Mott, Jonathan Dennis, John Brown, William Cobb, Thomas Howland, Stephen A. Chase, Rowland Rathbun, John Osborne, Daniel Clapp, Abraham Shearman, jun. Thomas Jones, Clarke Shove, Cornelius Howland, Thomas Fry, of Bolton, Silas Earle, Moses Farnum, Ahab Arnold, Ebenezer Pope, Thomas Anthony, William Reynolds, Isaiah Jones, Samuel B. Tobey, Daniel Johnson, Cromwell Barnard, George Mitchell, George Howland, Abraham Tucker, Harvey Chase, Jonathan Nichols, William Mitchell, Stephen Jones, jun. Joseph Davis, Isaac R. Gifford, John B. Dockray, Edward Wing, Moses Aldrich, Jonathan Congdon, Arnold Congdon, James N. Fry, Samuel Boyce, John Meader, David Shove, Elijah Pope, Sands Wing, and Reuben J. Peckham.

Which was united with, and they, with the addition of such Friends as may be added by the Women's Meeting, were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing or till another appointment, and requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends appointed in 1830, and continued last year, to visit subordinate Meetings, presented a Report, which being read and considered, was united with; and the Meeting being impressed with the necessity of a further extension of care in this way,---[at a subsequent sitting,]

William Almy, William Jenkins, Francis Taber, James Tucker, Abraham Shearman, jun. John Page, Thomas Jones, John Warren, Moses Starkie, Abel Collins, Estes Newhall, Eli Varney, John Meader, Benjamin Freeborn, Samuel Macey, Cornelius Howland, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, Walter Allen, James N. Fry, Caleb Nichols, Elijah Pope, Thomas Howland, Stephen Jones, Joshua Jenkins, Benjamin Buffinton, and John Osborne,

were appointed to unite with a similar Committee of the Women's Meeting, in visiting such of our Quarterly, Monthly and particular Meetings, and individual Members should occasion require, as way may open for, and to endeavor to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles and testimonies, and in the preservation of love and unity, by imparting such counsel and advice as they may respectively stand in need of, and the Committee be enabled in best wisdom to afford; and make report to this Meeting next year.

An essay of a communication to our subordinate Meetings, prepared by the Committee to which that subject was referred, being now read, was united with, and copies thereof directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings. [For which, see close of these Minutes.]

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare and present at our next sitting, essays of indorsements or minutes for our Friends now with us from other Yearly Meetings in this country.

The subject of the School having again been revived at this sitting, the Clerk was directed to annex to the Report of the Committee now to be sent down, the following extracts from advices approved by this Meeting, in 1825, viz.

"The School Committee, in the discharge of the important trust confided to them by the Yearly Meeting, have found it necessary from time to time to recur to the great object, which the Yearly Meeting itself, as well as the Friends who have contributed to the funds of the Institution, have had in view in the establishment of the School, and

which they think cannot be better expressed than in the language which accompanied the bequest of one of its early friends and most liberal benefactors; that our children and youth "may receive a religious guarded education, free from the contaminating influence of the "vain fashionable world, which leads young minds from the simplicity "of the truth, and that meek and quiet spirit exhibited by our blessed "Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, whom we profess to follow."

"It was in accordance with these views, that the Committee were induced, in the 2d month, 1819, soon after the School was in operation, to forward the following minute to the several Monthly Meetings, viz:

"It has appeared necessary, from experience derived since the "opening of the Institution, that more general circumspection should "be extended in sending children to the School. And to preserve the "order necessary to carry the object of the Yearly Meeting into more "complete effect, it is recommended that each Monthly Meeting appoint "a few suitable friends to whom [seasonable] application may be "made by Parents or Guardians of Children who are desirous of placing "them at the School; that the Friends so appointed consider it their "duty not only to enjoin that the children come in a plain dress, and in "the use of the plain Scripture language, but that they are of good "habits; and that they give a few hnes to that import, for the infor-"mation of the Superintendents and Instructors at the School."

"The Committee now feel it to be their duty to recommend to the Monthly Meetings a greater extension of care to these objects, and that the appointment of such Committees be revived by them, to act in connection with the members of this Committee, if any, who may reside within the limits of each Monthly Meeting."

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth-day morning, the 15th.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the general concerns of the Society to which the proposition of Falmouth, Vassalborough, and Dover Quarterly Meetings, relative to the removal of this Meeting to some more central place, was referred for consideration, report that the subject has claimed their attention, and resulted in the conclusion to propose to the Yearly Meeting the appointment of a Committee to consist of members from each Quarterly Meeting, to take the subject under further consideration, and report to our next Yearly Meeting—which was united with—and the following Friends were appointed to this service, viz. Thomas Howland, William Almy, David Buffum, Nathan Breed, Abijah Chase, John Page, James Tucker, Stephen Rogers, Cornelius Howland, William Purinton, Stephen Jones, Thomas Jones, Thomas Fry, John Osborne, Bernard Fowler, Clement Ratcliff, John Warren, Moses Starkie, Eli Varney, John Meader, John D. Lang.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends from abroad, with minutes agreeable to essays proposed.

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this continent, being read and considered, were approved, and directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

Having been mercifully favored with ability to act upon the various concerns of Society that have come before us, with much unanimity; and in the spirit of brotherly love and condescension, to bring them to a satisfactory result; under a grateful sense hereof, we conclude, proposing to meet again at this place, in the sixth month next, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

ABRAHAM SHEARMAN, Jr. Clerk.

From our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode-Island, from the 10th to the 15th inclusive, of the 6th mo. 1832.

To our several Quarterly, Monthly, and Preparative Meetings.

Dear Friends,

The reading of the answers to the Queries, received from our several Quarterly Meetings, has introduced our minds into a deep felt exercise in beholding the many and various departures from our profession, therein brought to view. And in particular we have lamented, the sorrowful want of faithfulness in the attendance of our religious Meetings.—When we consider the duty of assembling ourselves together for public worship to Almighty God, in the light of a public acknowledgment of our belief in Him, and in the gracious revelation of his will through his dear Son, our Lord, what vital importance does the performance of this duty assume. In a feeling of Gospel love, and of our responsibility to Him who hath called us to be a people, and in some measure, as we humbly trust, qualified us through his mercy to labor for his cause, let us revive for the serious and solemn consideration of our brethren in religious profession, that awakening language of our blessed Lord, when in that prepared body: "Also I say unto you, whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men, shall be denied before the angels of God." We are confirmed in the belief, that as the love of the things of time and the fleeting enjoyments of this world, shall be lessened among us, as the love of God shall take its place in our hearts, we shall be more concerned faithfully to perform this important duty, and in regularly assembling with our brethren, for public worship, and reverently waiting before Him, we shall graciously experience our strength in Him to be renewed, whereby we shall be enabled to withstand the assaults of temptation, and our souls be refreshed with his life giving presence. Let us, then, we tenderly exhort, be more and more alive to the great importance of this solemn and interesting duty.

And as the love of God increases and abounds among us, love unto one another will also prevail. Bound together by the sacred ties of Gospel fellowship, our brethren will become exceedingly near to our best feelings, and that heavenly charity which suffereth long and is kind, will become more and

more our covering. And O, that Friends every where were duly impressed with the necessity of preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and avoiding doubtful disputations, and seeking not to be wise above that which is written, humbly to believe in the all-important truths of the ever blessed Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, That God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him, should not perish, but have everlasting life; that he came into the world, as testified in the Holy Scriptures; that he went about doing good, and manifesting his Divine power for the good of men; that he died for our sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us unto God; that He rose again for our justification, and ever liveth to make intercession for us; that he is God over all, blessed forever. These all-important truths, as we humbly seek to be established therein, will indeed cement us together, and enable us through faith, to bear unitedly our testimony to the mercy and goodness of our heavenly Father. Thus will true unity and religious fellowship be experienced.

And being thus established, how exceedingly precious will those testimonies which we are called upon to bear become in our view. For, being measurably redeemed from the love of the world, we shall be concerned to seek the adorning of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price, rather than the vain ornaments of the world, and be preserved in the simplicity which becometh the Gospel of Christ.

The giving way to the temptation so abundantly offered by the press, in the present day, to what may be appropriately termed, *light reading*, we have been induced to believe, has had its influence in producing, in many instances, a deviation from the simplicity of our profession, not only in faith, but practice—indisposing the mind for serious reflection, giving it a disrelish for the perusal of more solid and useful works, and secretly, but gradually, undermining that firm reliance upon superior aid, which can alone sustain the mind, in the hour of trial and temptation, and rightly bear it up amid the many vicissitudes of time.

The practice of a daily reading of the Holy Scriptures, with our hearts turned unto Him, who can alone rightly open them to our understanding, and apply them effectually to the heart, has been feelingly brought before us. And as we reverently believe, that these invaluable writings, according to their own testimony, are able to make us wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Jesus Christ, how exceedingly important that we neglect not this precious means, which in the mercy of God has been vouchsafed to us for our reproof, correction and

instruction in righteousness. And we are confirmed in the belief, that as parents and heads of families are concerned daily to call around them the objects of their care, and with prayerful hearts for the divine blessing upon their endeavours, to read to them a portion of the sacred volume, allowing a space for silent introversion of soul to God, a great blessing will be experienced. The truths revealed in the Scriptures will become increasingly interesting and precious in our view, and in that of our children and dependents, and the ever blessed cause of truth and righteousness be furthered and promoted. We therefore recommend and tenderly exhort Friends to this practice, and greatly desire their encouragement therein.

And we fervently desire, that all in profession with us, may be renewedly stirred up to more faithfulness and watchfulness in the cause of Christ, remembering that the time is short, and that we are enjoined to work while the day lasts, for the night cometh wherein no man can work.

1832.

CORRESPONDENTS.

By Postscripts to the Epistles received from New-York and Indiana Yearly Meetings, it appears that the following changes or additions have been made in the lists of Correspondents appointed by them, to sign, in addition to the signatures of the Clerk, all minutes, certificates and other documents issued by Monthly or Quarterly Meetings, viz.

NEW-YORK YEARLY MEETING.

Richard Snell, of Lockport, Niagara County, is appointed Correspondent for Hartland Monthly Meeting, in Farmington Quarter, in place of James Robson, deceased.

INDIANA YEARLY MEETING.

MIAMI QUARTER.

Miami M. M. James Smith, Waynesville, Warren Co. Ohio.
Cincinnati, Ephraim Morgan, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Green Plain, John Wildman, Charlestown, Clark Co. Ohio.

WEST BRANCH QUARTER.

West Branch, David Mote, West Milton, Maine Co. Ohio.—All communications for either of the Correspondents for West Branch Quarterly Meeting, to be directed to West Milton, instead of Union, as heretofore.

FAIRFIELD QUARTER.

Clear Creek, Jonathan Sanders, Leesburgh, Highland Co. Ohio.

WHITE WATER QUARTER.

Duck Creek, George Evans, Greensborough, Henry Co. Indiana.
West Grove, John Maxwell, Centreville, Wayne Co. Indiana.
Chester, Isaac Barker, Richmond, Wayne Co. Indiana.

BLUE RIVER QUARTER.

Driftwood, John S. Chawner, Columbus, Bartholomew Co. Indiana.
Lick Creek, Silas Dixon, Paoli, Orange Co. Indiana.

NEW GARDEN QUARTER.

Arba, William Nixon, New Garden, Wayne Co. Indiana.

CENTRE QUARTER.

Springfield, Nathaniel Carter, Wilmington, Clinton Co. Ohio.

WHITE LICK QUARTER.

Fairfield, James Horton, Mooresville, Morgan Co. Indiana.
Sugar River, Jehu Ellis, Lafayette, Tippecanoe Co. Indiana.

Epistles

from the Yearly Meetings of London for London & England & Ireland
from the 10th to the 13th inclusive of the 6th mo. 1839.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

It is with a sweet sense of the unmerited goodness of the Great Shepherd of Israel that we have to acknowledge the continued overshadowing of our love under a precious measure of which we the Representatives at this time have been conducted. This heavenly influence as it is abode under clothes the mind with love to God as a Father and to our fellow creatures. For with Christ by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one unto another. Under a degree of this feeling we salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the Spirit most dear Yearly Meeting has afresh convinced us that one cause engages us and one hope animates us even the blessed cause of Truth and the animating and consoling hopes of the Gospel in which alone life and immortality are brought to light. We cordially unite with you in the desire that the ever blessed truths this in mercy remained may become more and more precious in our view — That the young in this favoured nation may acquaint themselves with these sacred truths that as they grow in years they may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ whom to know with God the Father is life eternal. With this glorious end in view how are motives to the diligent use encouraging the hope of the devoted mind with what strong inducement is the humble Christian armed to resist the assaults of the adversary of our happiness whether these assaults are calculated to weaken our faith in the attained means of salvation by Jesus Christ or to lead us from that path of moral rectitude which is the effect of this true and living faith. May we then dear Friends, with full purpose of heart run the race that is set before us, laying hold of the hope of the Gospel, remembering that the promises are sure having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his. Amid the tantalizing & besetments to which such are subject these blessed hopes will be as an anchor to the soul, both sure and stedfast.

We have with you to mourn over the deficiencies remaining amongst us, and the minds of many concerned Friends have been introduced into exercise on this account and much concern is manifest that these causes of mourning may be done away; and that the love of the Gospel may spread and abound amongst us. That there may be a succession of standard bearers that may so let their light shine before men that they seeing their good works may glorify our Father who is in heaven.

It has been a subject of exercise at this Meeting that a more unity among the different Yearly Meetings in respect to Discipline may be obtained and with this view we have joined with most of those

1832 on this continent, in the appointment of a Committee to confer together on this and other subjects of a general interest to Society, and we are not without hope, that under the cementing influence of the spirit of love, we may get become still more closely united as one people, in the maintenance of our various testimonies.

Our Beloved friend Hannah Chapman Backhouse, from your land, has been very acceptably with us at this time.

In the bond of Christian fellowship, we remain,

Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

We are afresh made sensible at this time of the advantages of religious fellowship, and renewedly convinced, that as we abide faithful to the manifestations of Truth in us, mercifully vouchsafed, we shall be qualified to become one another's helpers in the Lord. In all ages of the world, the true disciples of Jesus Christ have been subject to trials, and divers discouragements, and if, in the present day, our allotments must be in tribulated places, may we not be discouraged, as if some new thing had happened to us — seeing our blessed Lord has declared to his humble followers, that in the world ye shall have tribulation, but with the consoling promise, that in me ye shall have peace. We are desirous for ourselves and for our brethren, that we may more and more experience, that when the elements of civil society are in commotion, and the nations of the earth dash one against another, we may find a refuge from the storm, a safe hiding place, in the mercy of God, and in the pavilion of his love, and be enabled to adopt the language, Tho' I walk thro' the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil; for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Your acceptable Epistle of the fourth month last year, has been read in our Meetings, and our distant brethren have been feelingly brought near unto us, with desires that we as a people be favoured so to abide in the Truth as to witness the blessing of preservation; and that those precious principles which we are called upon to bear to the world, may be increasingly valued among us; that so we may become instrumental in the hand of Good in promoting his cause among men.

We believe that some of these testimonies, which in the first rise of our Society were peculiar to ourselves, have in the progress of time ceased in a great degree to be so. And this consideration should encourage us to persevere therein, that our light may shine brighter and brighter. And dear Friends, may we not hope, that as our confidence is alone in the unfailing arm of Divine mercy, with humble desires after faithfulness in his cause, this desirable state may be mercifully witnessed?

We have with much unanimity on our part, united with most of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, in the appointment of a

Committee be met with similar ways of their acknowledgment to confer together upon subjects connected with the general interests of the Society, and we are encouraged to hope, that assistance may result from the right conducting this important concern.

With the salutation of love, we are Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Junr. Clerk.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Having been favoured, in degree, to experience afresh the bin and condescension of our heavenly Father, whose tender mercies are over all his works, our minds during our present Meeting have been turned in love towards our brethren in religious profession, with desires that they, with us, may be favoured to abide under the covering influences of Divine love, by which alone we can preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Your acceptable Epistle of the Fourth month last has been read in our Meeting, and has afforded us comfort in believing, the exercise of the truly humble, is a united exercise for the promotion of the one great cause of true and vital Christianity in the earth. It is a source of unfeigned consolation and encouragement to us, that we as a people are so rightly favoured, in the profession of the essentials of the Christian faith, that we are enabled, unitedly to bear our testimony to the great truths of the Gospel, even that Gospel which reveals the way of life and salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. He who in infinite condescension and mercy, hath, by the sacrifice of himself upon the cross, opened a way whereby, through repentance and faith in him, we may be redeemed from our fallen nature, and made partakers of his mercy. And we are desirous of cherishing and enforcing these all important and highly interesting truths; believing that they are the only sure basis upon which we can build. For other foundation can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

We also desire ourselves to cherish the remembrance of the necessity of a full surrender of our hearts unto God, and an entire submission of our will to his holy and blessed will, in order, that he may work in us to will and to do of his own good pleasure, and as we are enabled through his grace thus to commit ourselves to his heavenly guidance, we have the unfailing promise that he will lead us into all truth, — gradually opening to us in the openings of his light, the glorious mysteries of his kingdom, and enabling us to witness a growth in the truth and an advancement, from time to time, towards the stature of a perfect man in Christ Jesus. And in these leadings the high way of holiness we have the animating example of many worthies who have gone before us, who in their day were humbly desirous of being the sincere followers of a meek and crucified Saviour, of Him who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. These, as they were faithful, were enabled to maintain the warfare against all the lusts of sin, and were finally made conquerors and more than conquerors, through him who loved them and gave himself for them.

May

1832.

May we dear Friends, be encouraged to hold on our way, & leaving the things that are behind press towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We also have cause of mourning with you, that many among us are too lukewarm and indifferent to their greatest good — And we earnestly desire that such may be stirred up to more diligence to make their calling and election sure; that they may be more concerned to witness the love of this world and its fleeting enjoyments done away and be animated by the love of God; that they may witness and be made partakers, through faith, and humble obedience to his will, of his abundant mercy, even the grace which cometh by Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, and died the just for the unjust, that he might bring us unto God.

The subject of a joint conference by Committees appointed by the different Yearly Meetings in America, on subjects of general interest to our Society, has been weightily considered in our Meeting, and has resulted, with much unanimity, in the conclusion that usefulness will result under best direction. From such a measure, — we have therefore appointed a Committee accordingly.

With the salutation of love, we are, Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, Junr. Clerk.

To New York.

Dear Friends,

Being again assembled in our Yearly Meeting, your acceptable Epistle of the present year, has been received & read. We have also received Epistles at this time, from all the other Yearly Meetings of Friends, and while we acknowledge that the affectionate remembrance of our brethren, thus manifested, has proved encouraging and strengthening to us, we feel it to be a day in which we have great need to gird on the armour of the Christian's warfare — to be sober and watchful, looking steadily for support & protection to the source from whence alone they can be derived.

We have had with you to mourn over deficiencies in the maintenance of our religious testimonies, as presented in the answers to the queries — and our concern has been, that our members may individually become established on that foundation which God has laid, and not man — that they may become wise in understanding the doctrines and precepts of Christ — then will they see the necessity of faithfully supporting those testimonies which are founded on these doctrines and precepts.

Our Boarding School continues to afford to many of our youth an opportunity of acquiring an education in a guarded manner; and by a recent extension of the branches of learning taught in it, we trust that its usefulness may be still further increased.

The subject of appointing a Committee to unite with Committees from other Yearly Meetings in general Conference, at Baltimore, in the seventh month next, claimed the solid attention of this Meeting, & resulted, with great unanimity, in the appointment of a Committee for this purpose.

With the salutation of love, we are Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, Junr. Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

We feel thankful in acknowledging that we have again been favoured to meet in this our annual assembly, and to transact the important concerns of Society, under a sense of the renewed extendings of ancient goodness which has often been manifested to this Society from its commencement, and which we trust will be continued as we dwell under the power and influence of the ever blessed Truth; that Truth which comes by Jesus Christ, and is the foundation of our religious principles, and by which our worthy predecessors were led into the important testimonies which were given them to bear, and which remain obligatory on their successors in the same faith carefully to maintain.

Much concern has been felt in this Meeting on account of the dear youth, a very considerable number of whom have attended at this time, some of whose countenances have gladdened the hearts of their elder brethren in the hope that they are under the inspiring hand for future usefulness in the Church.

Although your numbers may be small and you may feel as a heeled people, a nation meted out and trodden down, "Yet" Isa. 17.6 in the language of the Prophet "gleaning grapes shall be left in it as the shaking of an olive tree, two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof."

We have had the company of several Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labours in the Gospel have been edifying.

Your Epistle of last year was received and read, and was very acceptable to us.

We have appointed a Committee of Men and Women Friends to meet Committees from other Yearly Meetings in the 7th month next in Baltimore.

With the salutation of love, we remain, Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting.

by Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clerk

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

We have received and read your acceptable Epistle of last year, as also one from each of the other Yearly Meetings of Friends. These communications continue to be testimonials of that bond of union which unites this people, wherever situated, and however tried and tribulated. Your peculiar situation as regards the coloured population around you, has excited much feeling & sympathy in the minds of your distant brethren; and renewed desires have been raised, that as the religious Society of Friends has long felt a deep interest in the welfare of that degraded, that much injured people, there may be no relaxation of vigilance; but under the guidance of best wisdom, a steady perseverance for the accomplishment of their emancipation, stimulated by the comfortable hope, that eventually this evil will be removed from our enlightened & favoured land.

While your reduced situation may be discouragingly felt amongst yourselves, you may be assured that others are not unmindful of

1832. of you in this respect, and that the promise is not only made but often found to be verified that the few rightly gathered, is to crown Christ to be in the midst.

The accounts from our subordinate Meetings continue to furnish evidence of remissness, a want of coming up in faithfulness in our several allotments, — and particularly a neglect of the attendance of our religious Meetings, — which have been causes of deep concern to the rightly concerned amongst us. — Yet we are encouraged to hope that in the different parts of our Society, many are to be found endeavouring to support in a time of conflict, the various testimonies we are called to bear. And amongst the rising generation, there are those who are giving evidence of their attachment to the cause of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ, that while many of those who have borne the burthen in the heat of the day, are removed and removing from the Church militant, the hope is entertained that a succession of standard bearers will be raised up to bear the work of the testimony on their shoulders.

Our Meeting has been large, and mercifully owned, as we humbly trust, by the Shepherd of Israel, and ability has been afforded to transact the important concerns that have come before us, with brotherly love and condescension.

Our Boarding School still continues to give encouraging evidence of usefulness to the Society.

The subject of appointing a Committee to meet similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings in Baltimore, in the 7th month next, claimed the solid consideration of this Meeting, and has resulted in the appointment of a Committee of Men & Women Friends for that purpose.

In much love, we remain Your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting,
by Abraham Shoarman, Jun.r Clerk.

To North Carolina

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the 11th month last was received and read at this time, and renewed in our feelings the advantage of such brotherly communications.

We have been favoured to transact the affairs of the Church which have come before us in love and condescension. Although there are yet deficiencies manifest among us, we have nevertheless cause to be thankful to the Shepherd of Israel that we are preserved to be a people, and that the state of Society is as good as we have reason to believe it to be. And while we consider it our duty, to labour for the maintenance of our principles & testimonies, and the removal of hurtful things from within our borders, we at the same time believe it to be our duty, as much as may be to view things in the most favourable light, and not to dwell too much on those subjects that tend to depress and weaken our minds as individuals, and consequently the state of Society.

We have been comforted at this time with the presence of many hopeful youth whose countenance and demeanour evince that they are preparing for future usefulness in the Church; and a deep

concern and seen fit in their wise dispensation, that they may not fail short of the gracious designs of Providence in thus preparing them; but under it may become instrumental in building up and advancing the waste places of Zion.

You continue to receive our sympathy in the trials which it is your lot to bear on account of the African race, and we desire your hands may be strengthened in the humane and Christian cause for their relief.

It is cause of encouragement to us, that your minds have been turned towards the establishment of a Boarding School to be under the care and government of your Yearly Meeting. We may inform you that our institution of this kind at Providence, continues to afford evidence of usefulness to the Society.

The subject of appointing a Committee to meet similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings at Baltimore, in the seventh month next, having claimed the solid consideration of this Meeting, has resulted in the appointment of a Committee of Men and Women Friends for that purpose.

With the salutation of love, we are Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

We have been again been permitted to meet in this our Annual Assembly, to deliberate on the weighty concerns of the Society, and have gratifying to acknowledge, that in the course of our deliberations on the various subjects which have claimed the attention of this Meeting, we have been mercifully favoured with the evidence that the presence of our Heavenly Master has been manifestly felt among us at the time, by which we have been enabled to transact the business in brotherly love and condescension.

Your Epistle of ninth month last has been received and read at this time. The evidence it affords of your continued engagement to promote the best interests of the Society has been truly encouraging: and we remain to believe that a correspondence of that kind is a valuable means of promoting the welfare of the body at large, and of strengthening the bonds of Christian fellowship, by which we are made to feel that we are one people, how distant soever we may be separated.

This Meeting has been introduced into deep exercise on account of deficiencies that still exist among us, as manifested by reports from our several Quarterly Meetings, and which called forth the exhortation of much feeling advice. But though we lament the want of a more devoted dedication to our principles, and adherance to our testimonies, among many of our members, yet we cherish the hope that the religious care to administer help is not on the decline.

We have been encouraged at this time to believe, by the numerous attendance and becoming deportment of our young Friends, that many of them are disposed to become the disciples of Christ, and give their aid in support of his cause; and that the present has been a season of renewed visitation to them, by much faithful labour on their account.

The condition of our Boarding School at Providence, as reported by our Committee, appears to be prosperous, and continues to

a fund for the benefit of indigent children, for the purchase of some Children and youth. The notice with satisfaction, that you are making efforts to provide with a similar institution.

The daily reading of the Holy Scriptures in families, accompanied with a time of retirement, has very particularly claimed the attention of this Meeting, and the practice was feelingly recommended to Friends in our subordinate Meetings.

The subject of appointing a Committee to meet at Baltimore at the time mentioned, in conference with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, has been deliberately considered by this Meeting, and resulted in the appointment of such a Committee.

With feelings of brotherly regard, we remain, Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

This our Annual Assembly has been large, and under the extension of Divine favour, the weighty concerns that have come before us, have been transacted in harmony and brotherly love.

Your acceptable Epistle of 6th month last has been received and read at this time to our satisfaction and comfort, and we are renewedly confirmed that these Epistolary communications have a tendency to strengthen the bonds of that union, which characterises us, however remotely situated from each other, as one people. And we desire that through a faithful maintenance of our various Christian testimonies, we may not only be one in Faith, but one in practice, having one God who is head over all things to his Church.

By the accounts received from our several Quarterly Meetings, it appears that deficiencies still exist among us, especially in relation to the attendance of our religious Meetings, which was cause of deep exercise to many concerned brethren, and much suitable counsel was imparted, which we desire may rest with the minds of Friends to greater Faithfulness, that all our members may evince that they are not conformed to this world, but are transformed by the renewing of our minds.

The subject of the daily reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures in our families, when collected, claimed the deliberate consideration of this Meeting, and resulted in recommending it to the attention of our members generally, believing that as we are careful, rightfully to discharge this important duty, the hands of many will be strengthened in the more faithful support of our Christian principles and practices.

The lively interest evinced by many of the younger class of this attachment to the cause of our Holy Redeemer, and a disposition to submit to the purifying operations of his Spirit, has been cause of humble thankfulness to the rightly concerned amongst us. For these, as for every class in Society, we desire that through an humble dependence on him who was delivered for our offences and raised again for our justification, they may witness a right preparation of mind for every good word and work.

Your continued care in the concern for the Indian natives, under the present trials to which that people are subjected, was grateful to us, as also that towards the people of colour; and we ardently desire that the time may not be far distant when in our beloved country, the rights of every class may be acknowledged to be grounded upon true Christian principles.

By the report of our Boarding School Committee it appears that this institution continues to furnish the evidence of usefulness which was anticipated in its early establishment. The subject of appointing a Committee to confer with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, to meet in Baltimore, claimed the solid consideration of this Meeting, and resulted in the appointment of a Committee on our part.

Your

Compared, Jan. 15, 1833
Hall Ch. Clerk

Your petition relative to petitioning the General Government of African Slavery was considered, and being felt to be one of much importance, it was our conclusion to refer it to the Yearly Meeting's general Committee of Conference.

With the salutation of love, we remain Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Graham Newman, Jun.r Clerk.

1833.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held on Rhode-Island, beginning with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport & Portsmouth, on First Day the 16th, and at Newport, for Discipline, on Second day morning, the 17th of Sixth month, 1833.

Accounts from all our Quarterly Meetings were received & read. The Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting are, For Rhode Island, Benjamin Freeborn, Daniel Howland, Thomas Howland, William King, Abel Collins, Oliver Chase, Thomas Foster, William Reynolds, Matthew Purinton, David Buffum. For Salem, Jon.a Nichols, John Sage, Abner Chase, Nathan Reed of Lynn, Wm. Bassett, For Sandwich, Barnabas Tabor, Joseph Davis, Stephen Rogers, Abraham Sisson of Dartmouth, Eli Davis, Samuel Jewett, George Mitchell. For Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Josiah Winslow, William Purinton, Josiah Jones, Smithfield, Rowland Robbins, Royal Southwick, Thomas Jun, Josiah Shove. For Scituate, Edmund Whitemore, Josiah Jones, Isaac Jones, Samuel Taylor, jun.r Abraham Potter, Daniel Smiley, Cornelius Douglass — Dover, Eli Varney, Benjamin Fry, John D. Lang, and Stephen A. Chase. Whose names being called, it appears that they are all present.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved Friends Jonathan Backhouse, of Great-Britain, and Jacob Green of Ireland; who produced satisfactory certificates of the unity of their Friends at home, with their pious & religious engagements in this country. The former, from the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, held in the 9th mo. the Quarterly Meeting of Durham, held in the 10th, and the morning Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, in the same month, 1832. — The latter, from the M.o Meeting of Lisburn, and the Quarterly Meeting of Ulster Province, both held in the 4th, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in Dublin, in the 5th month, 1832.

We have also the acceptable company of our Friends Joseph Thorndon, companion to our Friend Jacob Green, and Joseph Bevington, companion to our Friend Guilielma Middleton; who produced satisfactory minutes from the M.o Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia for the N.o District, liberating them to these services.

... held in London, in the 5th month last year, with an Epis... from the Yearly Meeting in Ireland; and one from the Yearly Meetings in this country, except Ohio, were read to our edification and comfort.

William Howland, Stephen A. Chase, George Wilbor, Thomas Howland, Samuel Boyce, Isaac Jones, Samuel P. Hoag, John Carter, Thomas Fry, Moses A. Cartland, William Jenkins, William Brissett, jun.ª & John Osborne and John Farnum, were appointed to take that Epistle into consideration; and as way opens for it, to prepare drafts of communications to those Meetings respectively, and also to Ohio; and lay before this at a future sitting.

It appears that all our Quarterly Meetings have given the necessary directions relative to their respective proportions of Stock, as directed last year. Stephen Gould, Jonathan Nichols, Elisha Thornton, Josiah Jones, John Osborne, John L. Lang, and Paul Weaver, are appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts; consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, - also to propose a Treasurer, - and report at a future sitting.

By the accounts now received, we are informed that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Rhode-Island M.º Meeting in the appointment of Henry Gould and David Burgess to the station of Elders. That Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Salem M.º Meeting in approving the public ministry of Sophronia Page; with Scituate M.º Meeting in approving the public ministry of Edward Love, jun.ª and with Uxbridge M.º Meeting, in the appointment of Jonathan Hoag to the station of an Elder. That Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with N. Bedford M.º Meeting in approving the public ministry of Joseph Davis. That Falmouth Quarterly Meeting has united with Durham M.º Meeting, in the appointment of David Davis to the station of an Elder. That Smithfield Quarterly Meeting has united with Smithfield M.º Meeting in the appointment of John Osborne, - and that Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting has united with Vassalboro' M.º Meeting in the appointment of Tabitha Cartland to the same station. That Dover Quarterly Meeting has united with Dover M.º Meeting in approving the public Ministry of Gideon Beede and with Sandwich M.º Meeting in the appointment of Jonathan Beede to the station of an Elder.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met.

Thomas Howland, on behalf of the Representatives, proposed the appointment of Abraham Shearman, jun.ª as Clerk, and John Osborne as Assistant Clerk, which was united with; and they were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing.

Our beloved friends Mildred Ratcliff of Westland & Hannah Mendenhall of Washington Monthly Meeting in Washington County Pennsylvania; and Sabina Whitehead of [illegible] have now with us & by satisfactory certificates of the unity of their friends with their gospel labours & engagements are at this sitting.

Our friend Isaac Wilson of Westland Monthly Meeting produces a minute & Sarah & Edith Wilson & Hannah Wilson to labour if way open & they are accepted with us & produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their friends with their engagements.

Our beloved friend Hannah Ingham of Southland Great Britain is also again acceptably with us.

We are informed by Salem Quarterly Meeting that it is their conclusion that their Quarterly Meeting held in Salem on the third 5th day in the first month at Salem, instead of Salmon; and on the fourth 5th day in the fifth month at Salmon, instead of Salem; — which is approved by this Meeting and the Clerk was directed to forward a copy of this minute to Salem Quarterly Meeting.

We are informed by Dover Quarterly Meeting that by a late division of the town of Dover into two separate towns it appears that Friends' Meeting house at which their Quarterly Meeting is held in the 8th month is now situated within the town of North Berwick and that the Quarterly Meetings hereafter to be held there will therefore be held in North Berwick.

The Annual Report of the Boarding School Committee was laid before the Meeting, and after a free discussion of its contents, the propositions therein is omitted for consideration was agreed to, and the Report accepted, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

It follows.

"To the Yearly Meeting, to be held on Rhode Island in the sixth Month next.

The Boarding School Committee report,

"That they have during the past year given attention to the various concerns of the Institution, and that they have been conducted in good degree to their satisfaction. Meetings have been soundly kept up; and harmony has been preserved.

"The average number of Scholars during the year, has been one hundred & seventy two. — The School is continued under the immediate care of Enoch & Lydia Bread, as superintendents, in which capacity they are assisted by Eliza Shew and Hannah Gould. — Moses A. Cartland, Benj. Earle, jun. Jonathan Lewis are employed as Teachers in the Boys School; and Deborah Ramsdell, Mary H. Gilman, Caroline Cartland, and Martha Barker, in the Girls. — The latter of whom, for six months, rendered gratuitous service to the Institution. Samuel P. Gummere continues to have charge of the department for Languages. &c.

"It having long been believed by the Committee that the

1833. School might be improved, and its advantages to the Children greatly enhanced, by having some person employed to superintend the literary concerns who, by his experience in the business of teaching, and by the acquirements, would be qualified to render advice to the Teachers, to examine the Scholars in their several Studies, and to extend an immediate supervisory care over every department of the School. With this object, in the 12th month last, our friend John Griscom, from New York, was introduced into the Institution, and the services he has rendered in the manner above specified, and by lecturing on different subjects, have been satisfactory to us, and we believe have tended in various ways to the essential improvement of the Scholars.

"By settling the accounts, it appears that at the present prices for board and tuition, the income will not meet the expenditures of the School. The Committee, after maturely weighing the subject, have concluded to propose to the Yearly Meeting; that after the first of eighth month next, members of Society, of this Yearly Meeting, be received for fifteen dollars per quarter; that those who are not members of Society, but who have one or both parents members, be received for twenty-two and a half dollars per quarter; and should any who are not thus connected with Friends be received, that the price be thirty dollars per quarter; that to those who are admitted into the School for Languages, &c. and that to members of other Yearly Meetings, the price be continued as heretofore. And that the privilege of sending one child, six months, free of expense, be extended to each Monthly Meeting, as last year. Although by this arrangement, the income to Friends who place their Children in this Institution will be a little augmented, still the Committee have confidence in believing that there will be ample remuneration in the increased advantages the School now presents for the improvement of the Scholars.

"In the seventh month of last year, in consequence of the appearance of the Cholera in our country, and the effect produced upon the minds of the Children by the approach of this fearful malady, it was deemed most prudent, under the advisement of the Meeting for Sufferings, to vacate the School for a season. It was not considered best to re-assemble the Scholars until the tenth month, when the School was again opened, and those who had left generally returned.

"Although during the past year the visitations of sickness and death have been many in our country, and we have not wholly escaped, yet we feel bound thankfully to commemorate the preservation that has been extended to us by Him, from whom are all our pure mercies.

"Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Committee, by

William Jenkins, Clerk.

"Yearly Meeting Boarding School,
Providence, 5th mo. 3d, 1833."

It being apprehended that usefulness will result from the appointment of a Committee to take into consideration the general state of the Society, with any subjects connected with its welfare, that they may consider it necessary should claim the attention of this Meeting, Thomas Hazard, Stephen Gould, Jonathan Dennis, Cornelius Haviland, Eli Kirby, of Yarmouth, Seth Davis, William Jones, Daniel Haviland, John Mosher Rowland Greene, Eli Varney, Caleb Newhall, Abel Collins, William Jenkins, George Mitchell, John Warren, John Wilbur, David Buffum, Stephen A. Crane, Samuel Taylor, jun. Edmund Chase William Swinton, Moses Shattuck, David Thorp, Josiah Jones, Thomas Jones, John Varnum, Francis Taber, James Tucker, John D. Lang, John Page, Walter Allen, Peter B. Aldrich, Joseph Davis, John Osborne, Ethan Foster, Nathan Wood of Lynn, Isaac Jones, Abraham Shearman, jun. Thomas Anthony, Thomas Fry, Samuel Rogers, Saul Taber, and Andrew Vickers, were appointed to this service, & requested to report from time to time as occasion may require

The subject of the continuance of the present, or the nomination of a new Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the Yearly Meetings School, was referred to the consideration of the above Committee.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third-day afternoon the 18th.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Friends at the opening of this sitting proceeded to consider the state of Society, as brought to view by the answers to the Queries from the several Quarterly Meetings. the tenor of which was gone thro' with — and the following Summary is intended to embrace the substance of the answers received. viz.

1. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been duly held, with exceptions, in one of the accounts, of a few instances of omission in one particular. Yearly, and in another, of two instances of such omission. It appears that Meetings on first days have generally been attended by most Friends; while those in the middle of the week, and for discipline, have been neglected by many; that the hour has been mostly observed; and that our Members have been generally clear of unbecoming behaviour, a few instances of sheepish excepted. — Some care has been extended as respects these deficiencies. — 2. Love and unity in a good degree subsist among most most Friends, yet in some instances there is deficiency therein. Detraction appears to be mostly guarded against, tho' not so fully in some instances as the Society requires; and several of the accounts mention an extension of care in these deficiencies. — Endeavours are used to end differences. — 3. Most Friends endeavour to bring up those under their direction in plainness of speech, behaviour & apparel, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books, also, from the corrupt conversation of the world, and are exemplary herein themselves; yet it is apparent that there are many deviations in supporting our testimonies in these respects. — We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most families. — 4. — Generally careful in the several particulars of this Query, except

a few instances of frequenting places of public resort, and of using spirituous liquors, other than for medicine, and some care be taken. ——
—— 5. The circumstances of the poor are attended to, and their necessities relieved; and their children it appears partake of learning. A few instances of placing out appear to be under notice. ——
—— 6. Most Friends appear to be concerned to maintain our testimony with regard to marriage; while some are not sufficiently careful herein. Some care has been extended. —— 7. — Our testimonies embraced in this Query appear to be generally maintained; with a few exceptions of a military nature; and a few cases, adverted to in one of the accounts, of deficiency in bearing our testimony against the payment of priests' wages; in regard to which, care has been extended. —— 8. — There is some deficiency in timely writing accounts. In good measure careful in the other part.

9. Friends are generally careful as to records; yet there is some deficiency. Several instances of removal without certificate are under notice. —— 10. Care has been taken to deal with offenders in a good measure as queried after; yet in some instances more timely and extensive care appears to be necessary. — No cause of complaint as to placing judgment.

The Committee appointed by this Meeting last year, to confer with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings at Baltimore; in the seventh month last, on subjects affecting the general interests and welfare of the Society, produced the following Report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed to confer with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, at Baltimore, on the last 2d day of 7th mo. last. — Report, — That at the time proposed for Meeting, and for several weeks prior, the Cholera prevailed in several of our Cities to a very alarming degree, not only occasioning danger in travelling, but in many places an entire interdiction of communication, by municipal regulations. — Under these peculiarly trying circumstances, the Committee, impressed with the importance of the concern, and of the weight of responsibility attached to them by the appointment, had several interviews on the subject, which resulted in the conclusion to address a communication to the General Committee assembled at Baltimore, expressive of our unity with the concern, and of the causes which operated to prevent our unity in deliberation with them at that time. — The communication was signed by the greatest part of the Committee under appointment, and sent in season to reach the General Committee at the opening of their conference. — We have since received from them their Report to the several Yearly Meetings which we herewith present.

On behalf of the Committee,
Thos. Howland,
Elizabeth Wing."
Newport, 4m. 18th. 1833.

— Which was read, — and with the accompanying Report of the General Committee addressed to the several Yearly Meetings that had appointed Committees of Conference, was referred to the Com-

mittee on the State of the Society, appointed yesterday. And being informed by several in this Meeting in the Visitors communication, which from time to time, that they have continued or re-appointed Committees for the purposes originally contemplated in the proposition for a united Conference of Committees from the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent. The consideration of what it may be best for this Meeting to adopt in the present state of the subject, is referred to the same Committee.

The Meeting then adjourned to the 10th hour, to-morrow morning.

Fourth day morning, the 19th.

Friends again met, according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed last year, to consider the proposition from the three Eastern Quarterly Meetings, for the removal of the Yearly Meeting to some more central place, produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Committee appointed last year to consider the proposition of the three eastern Quarters, to move the Yearly Meeting to some more central place, report, That they have from time to time given attention to the subject of their appointment, and after several opportunities had in the consideration & discussion of the proposition, they have, with much unanimity, come to the conclusion to recommend to the Yearly Meeting, that the subject be deferred for further consideration, under the care of a Committee.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 9th mo. 18, 1833. Thomas Fry,
Hannah Carlton

Which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and in conformity therewith, it was concluded to defer the subject, for further consideration, under the care of the same Committee, with the addition of Eldad Wing, John Wilbur, Estes Newhall, Abijah Johnson, Seth Kelley, of Farm. George Mitchell, Peter H. Morrill, Isaiah Jones, Rowland Rathbun, Moses Aldrich, Paul Taber, Abraham Potter, Stephen A. Chase, & Wm. Hill. Who were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Report drawn up by the Committee of the Yearly Meetings which met in General Committee at Baltimore, in the seventh month, last year, and to which was referred to in the minutes of yesterday, was now read, and it was directed, that after being laid before the Women's Meeting, it should be handed back to the Committee on the State of the Society.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year, were read, and the attention which thereby appears to have been given to the various subjects that have come before them, is satisfactory to this Meeting. And the subject of the continuance of the present, or a new nomination of Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, was referred to the consideration of the Committee on the State of the Society.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

1833

afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts and for other purposes, presented the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"Agreeably to appointment, we have examined & settled the Treasurer's accounts, and find a balance in his hands of $448.76. We would propose the sum of $600. to be raised for the service of the Meeting for 1833. And John Parnum for Treasurer for the ensuing year. All which we submit to the Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 4th mo 18, 1833. Stephen Gould."

Which being read, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and in conformity therewith, John Parnum was appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing. It was concurred to raise $600. the sum proposed, and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to the Treasurer their usual proportions of this sum, viz. Rhode Island 30; Salem, 12½; Sandwich, 30; Falmouth, 4¾; Smithfield, 12½; Nassaboro' 4, & Dover 6¼ per Ct.

The Committee on the general concerns of the Society, to which that subject was referred, proposed that the following Friends, viz.

Moses Brown,	William Robbs,	Daniel Johnson,	Elijah Fobes,
William Almy,	Thomas Howland,	George Mitchell,	Sands Wing,
Daniel Howland,	Walter R. Chase,	George Howland,	Reuben J. Peckham,
Howland Crane,	Rowland Robbins,	Geo. Tucker,	Wm. H. Robinson,
Nicholas Compton,	John Greene,	Harvey Peckham,	Silas R. Mowry,
Elijah Mason,	David Wood,	Jon. Nichols,	Samuel Wing,
John Wilbur,	Wm. Thurston, Jr.	Wm. Mitchell,	Ebenezer Wing,
William Jenkins,	Thomas Jones,	Matthew Jones, jun.	Stephen Rogers,
Walter Allen,	Charles Grove,	Joseph Davis,	Abraham Potter,
Joseph Metcalf,	Cornelius Howland,	Isaac R. Hufford,	Elijah Johnson,
James Tucker,	Thos. Arnold of Pelham,	Edward Wing,	John Macomber,
John Field,	Silas Earle,	Moses Aldrich,	Nathan Wood, of Lyn
Benja. Peckham,	Asael Parnum,	Jon. Congdon,	Benj. Hoag,
David Buffum,	Owen Coffin,	Arnold Congdon,	William Russell,
Francis Tabor,	Thomas Anthony,	James Hoag,	Joseph Howland,
Benjamin Mott,	Wm. Reynolds,	Tamar Joyce,	Abel Collins,
Jon. Dennis,	Josiah Jones,	John Macomber,	Seth Kelley, of
John Brown,	Samuel B. Tobey,	David Hoxie,	Yarmouth,

were appointed a Committee on the part of this Meeting, for the government & superintendence of the Boarding School; which was united with; and they, with the addition of such Friends as may be appointed by the Women's Meeting, were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment.

The Committee on Indian concerns produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee on Indian affairs have given attention to their appointment, and a portion of them have visited them from time to time as circumstances seemed to require; and though there has been but little improvement during the past year, owing to circumstances not within our control; yet we believe the case of Friends has been in some measure beneficial. The willingness of the present Agent of the State of Maine to co-operate with Friends, induces the Committee to believe that the further care of Friends will continue to benefit this people.

Of the funds appropriated by the Yearly Meeting for this service; twenty five dollars remain in the hands of the Committee; about half of which sum will be required to meet expenses already incurred.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6mo 18. 1833. John Warren.

Which being read; the care that has been extended by the Committee was satisfactory to the Meeting; and believing that usefulness will continue to result to this People, from a faithful attention of care on hand, the Committee now under appointment, with the exception of our late friend Edward Cobb deceased, was continued for another year; and encouraged to give attention as way may open for it, to the objects the Yearly Meeting has heretofore had in view in this concern. — And John Warren was authorised to call on our Treasurer for Fifty dollars, to be expended by the Committee in promoting these objects. — And the Committee was requested to report next year.

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare, and present at our next sitting, essays of Indorsements or Minutes for our Friends now with us from other Yearly Meetings of this Country — also a Certificate for our friend Jacob Green, from Ireland, who, we are informed, expects soon to embark for Home.

It being proposed by the Committee on the general concerns of the Society "to entrust the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia, in our Epistle to them, with the subject of the proposed Conference of Committees of the several Yearly Meetings; and particularly to invite their attention to the several subjects proposed by this Meeting for the consideration of the Committees of Conference" — the proposition was, after consideration, united with, and the subject given in charge to the Committee on the Correspondence.

A Testimony of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting concerning our Beloved Friend, Dorcas Peckham, deceased; and a Testimony of Dover Mansion concerning his deceased Wife, Sarah Winslow, approved by China Monthly; and Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, were read in this Meeting, and being approved, were directed to be placed on Record.

Adjourned to half past 4, tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 20th.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee to which that subject was referred, proposed that the following Friends should constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, viz.

Moses Brown,	Daniel Howland,	Daniel Johnson,	Peter Peckham,
William Almy,	Francis Taber,	James M. Fry,	William Reynolds,
Rowland Greene,	William Cobb,	Benjamin Fry,	Prince Gardner,
Thomas Rowland,	Joshua Meader,	Nicholas Congdon,	Moses Parsons,
Benj.a Freeborn,	Thos Arnold 2nd,	John Osborne,	Moses Starkey,
James Tucker,	John Martin,	William Jenkins,	Joseph Metcalf,
Rowland Robbins,	Matthew Brayton,	Jonathan Penny,	Andrew Nichols,
Wm Shearman, Jr.	Joshua Jenkins,	Stephen Gould,	Ebenezer Pope,
Stephen Jones,	George Mitchell,	David Ruggles,	Isaiah Jones,
Elisha Marshall,	John Farnum,	Elijah Chase,	Thomas Fry, of Fallon
Coms Howland,	John Brown,	Aliver Chase,	John Meader,
Walter Allen,	Stephen A. Chase,	Caleb Nichols,	Edward Wing.

which was united with, and they were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing, as this another appointment. To act therein according to the authority heretofore given to said Meeting.

The Committee appointed last year, to visit Quarterly, Monthly and particular Meetings, and individual Members, recorded in various service and as way might open; and to endeavour to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles and testimonies, and in the preservation of love and unity — produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"We the Committee appointed last year to visit the subordinate Meetings, &c. having given such attention to the objects of our appointment as way has opened for, are united in the belief that usefulness may result from the appointment of such a Committee the ensuing year. On behalf of the Committee,

Benjamin Fry,

Newport, 6m° 20th, 1833. Betsey Purinton."

— Which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting and the Friends now under appointment were continued in that service, to unite therein with a similar Committee of the Women's Meeting, and were requested to report next year.

Adjourned to the 10th hour, tomorrow morning.

Sixth-day morning, the 21st. Friends again met.

Essays of communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of London and Ireland, and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, were read in this and the previous sitting and being approved, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf and forwarded to those Meetings.

A Certificate for our beloved Friend Jacob Green, from Ireland, addressed to the Monthly Meeting of Lisburn, the Quarterly Meeting of Ulster Province, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in Dublin, was approved by this and the Women's Meeting, and directed to be signed by the Clerks. [see close of these Minutes.]

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends from other Yearly Meetings in this Country, with Minutes, agreeably to Essays proposed.

A concern for the more guarded and religious education of the Children of Friends, and for the establishment of Libraries of Friends' Books, in the several Monthly Meetings, having been revived in this Meeting, and claimed its consideration, a lively interest was felt in regard to these subjects. — The attention of Friends was earnestly desired to the concern of establishing, in the several Monthly Meetings, one or more Libraries of the standard works of our Society, that Friends may at all times have access thereto, to the end that the consistency, truth and harmony of our Christian principles being known, the minds of Friends may become more and more established in them, and the unity of faith and doctrine which it so much becomes us to inculcate, may more and more abound. — The provisions of our Discipline with respect to Education, and Schools for the Children of Friends, were

recommended to be revived in our subordinate Meetings, & put in practice wherever Friends' circumstances will allow. — And the Clerk was directed to forward copies of this Minute to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

It was recommended, that all Certificates of Removal, issued by our Monthly Meetings, be signed by the Clerks of both the Men's and Women's Meetings. — And that this conclusion be entered in our Books of Discipline. — Which the Clerk was directed to forward as above.

The Committee on the general concerns of the Society, to which that subject was referred, proposed the adoption by this Meeting, of the following Minute, relative to the proposed conference by Committees of the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, to deliberate on such subjects, affecting the general interests and welfare of the body at large, as may be proposed for consideration by any of said Yearly Meetings. — Which being read, and deliberately considered, was, with much unanimity, adopted by this and the Women's Meeting.

"The subject of the proposed conference by Committees appointed by the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, to take into consideration such subjects, affecting the general interests and welfare of the Society at large, as may be proposed in any of the Yearly Meetings, having again been brought under consideration by the reading of the Report of our Committee appointed last year, and the accompanying Report of such of the Committees of other Yearly Meetings as assembled at Baltimore in the seventh month last, as well as by the information on this subject contained in several of the Epistles received at this time, — It is our conclusion to appoint a Committee to meet in general Conference with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings of Friends, at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the several Committees; or should any thing occur, to prevent the personal attendance of our Committee, they are authorized to correspond with said general Committee of Conference, and endeavour then to spread before the views of Friends here, on this subject: or if any individual members of our Committee should be so circumstanced as to make it difficult for them to accompany the rest of the Committee, such individuals are at liberty to communicate their prospects upon the subjects proposed to be considered, through the medium of such of the Committee as may attend. — And while we continue to feel unity with a concern that has thus before received the cordial approbation of this Meeting, & at the same time feel an earnest desire that all the Yearly Meetings on this Continent may be united in the consideration of subjects deeply connected with the welfare of the body, and the advancement of its testimonies: and that nothing may be done that may have a tendency to shut up the way for such a uniting in the concern; — but that under the influence of that Wisdom which is profitable to direct us in all our endeavors for the promotion of the cause of Truth, and the welfare of the body at large; the several Committees, when united in Conference, may be enabled to proceed, so as to preserve that harmony between the several Yearly Meetings of Friends in this country, that has hitherto so happily prevailed."

The same Committee proposed that the following Friends, viz. William Almy, Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, William Jenkins, John Meader, John Warren, Josiah Varnum, David Buffum and Abraham Shearman, Jun.r ... should, ... with such Friends as may be united by the Women's Meeting, constitute a Committee on the part of this Yearly Meeting, for the above purposes; which was united with; and the Clerk was directed to furnish them with a copy of the preceding minute — and they requested to report to this Meeting next year. ... [Elizabeth Barker, Alice Rathbun, Mary B. Allen, Lydia Breed and Elizabeth Meader, were added by the Womens Meeting.

The Clerk was authorized to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes, not already provided for, & sign them on our behalf.

Having, through the several sittings of this Meeting, been enabled to act upon the various interesting concerns of Society that have come before us, in much harmony & brotherly condescension, and as we humbly trust, under a measure of the influence of the good Spirit of Him who first gathered us, and who still mercifully preserves us to be a people, — under a grateful sense of this renewed favour, we conclude, — proposing to meet again at this place, in the Sixth month next, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk.

[Certificate for Jacob Green.]

"To Friends of the Monthly Meeting of Lisburn, the Quarterly Meeting of Ulster Province, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in Dublin.

Dear Friends,

Our beloved friend Jacob Green in the course of his religious visit to Friends in this Country, has very acceptably attended this our Annual Assembly, with your Certificate of concurrence with him in his present visit to Friends in North America. His circumspect deportment & example has been becoming our profession and his labours of love in the ministry of the Gospel among us, sound and edifying. His visit to Friends of New England has been almost exclusively confined to the time of holding this Yearly Meeting; and understanding that he now expects soon to return to his native land, we can, in bidding him farewell, with feelings of brotherly love, express our fervent desire for his preservation and safe return to his family & friends, with the reward of peace.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 16th to the 21st, inclusive, of the 6th month, 1833.

Information respecting Correspondents of other Yearly Meetings received in 1833.

From Philadelphia. — "Thomas Evans, of Haddonfield, is appointed Correspondent of that M° Meeting, in place of John Gill, released at his own request."

From New York. — "Thomas P. Thorn is appointed Correspondent of Marlboro' M° Meeting, in Cornwall Quarterly M.— in place of Zephaniah Birdsall, removed. Same address."

Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Portsmouth
from the 16th to the 21st, inclusive of the 6th month, 1833.
to other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

Your Epistle of last year was received in our Meeting to our comfort and satisfaction, inasmuch as it furnished a fresh proof of the regard and remembrance of our distant brethren, and has given us a renewed evidence, that widely separated as we are, and differently circumstanced in many respects, the precious influence of the Gospel is the same every where, its fruits and tendency the same, and that to devoted followers of its Divine Author are all led to the acknowledgment of their faith in the same essential doctrines, and to a conformity to the same blessed precepts.

Your tender solicitude, so feelingly expressed, that all the proceedings in the Church militant may be carried on under the precious influence of the love of God, is very grateful to us; for we hold this truth to be fundamental, that without the sanctifying influence of the Spirit of Christ in our hearts, we can do nothing that will promote his blessed cause, or hasten the coming of his kingdom and the prevalence of his religion in the earth, or secure the lasting peace of our own minds. And we have the animating and consoling promise, that he will give of his Holy Spirit to all them that ask him, and that whatsoever his sincere disciples shall ask in his Name will not be withholden. Among the most precious of his gifts, and one which we are persuaded the awakened enquiring mind will most earnestly seek for and desire, is an increase of faith in him as the blessed Saviour of the world, and the language of such as these will be, Lord I believe, help thou mine unbelief. And we are assured, that as a right exercise of this kind is a bode under strength will from time to time be renewed, so that the acknowledgement can finally be made, Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God. In this state of mind how precious will be the gracious provision made for our redemption in the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, become in our view, how inestimable the sacrifice made for our sakes by a glorious Redeemer, when he died for our sins, the just for the unjust, and gave himself, for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity. Our faith is confirmed, that all those who are led by his Spirit will graciously, enabled, through him, to overcome all the doubts & unbelief in which the natural heart abounds, in our fast & fallen estate, and finally become conquerors over all the suggestions of an unwearied adversary, who seeks to draw us away from the simplicity of the Gospel, and be enabled to confess a meek and crucified Saviour before men, taking hold of the promise, that such he will acknowledge before his Father and the holy angels.

We have felt an earnest solicitude for ourselves, that we may increasingly witness the growth and prevalence of this faith, that leaving all speculation, we may receive the Gospel in its purity & simplicity as taught in the Holy Scriptures, and humbly relying on the truths of

1833 the Bible, not to be [illegible] of [illegible] but to [illegible] as [illegible] Lamb of God, the only sure foundation for [illegible] that such precious [illegible] whom prophets & apostles [illegible] by men in every age of the Church were built, and found safely in the hour of adversity.

The right education of the rising generation is a subject at all times highly interesting, and of great importance as well to the hope of a succession in the militant Church, as essentially connected with their well being both in time and eternity; that their tender minds should be early imbued with the great Truths of Christianity, and an intimate acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures should be considered a very essential part of their early instruction, that so as it may please the Great Shepherd to call them to service in his cause, they may be qualified to be more eminently useful in the Church, and like Timothy, knowing the Holy Scriptures from their childhood, witness the truth of the testimony, that they are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus. And we have felt an increasing concern at this time to encourage and strengthen our dear brethren to more faithfulness and dedication in this important concern.

The welfare of a remnant of the aboriginal inhabitants of our part of the land has also claimed our sympathy and attention, and from the report of our Committee engaged with that subject we are encouraged to hope, that in this work of Christian philanthropy we have not entirely laboured in vain.

Our beloved friends Jonathan & Hannah Chapman, Backhouse, from your land, have again been acceptably with us.

Having through Divine favour been enabled to transact the concerns of our Meeting in much harmony & brotherly feeling, we desire with grateful hearts to make mention of his goodness, and remain, dear friends, your affectionately, Farewell.

Signed on behalf & by direction of the Meeting aforesaid by

Abraham Sheerman, Jr. Clerk.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the Fourth month, 1832, has been read in our Meeting, and with similar testimonials of Christian regard from our Brethren of other Yearly Meetings, has afresh brought us to feel, that under the influence of the cementing love of the Gospel, we are mercifully enabled to greet one another as brethren of the same family, having one Master, even Christ.

It has been a prevailing desire with us that we may still more and more dwell under this precious covering, that so, having our own hearts filled with a sense of the loving kindness of our heavenly Father, we may increasingly know its effect in love one for another, and be enabled to exemplify the saying of our Blessed Lord, By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

The present is a day which seems peculiarly to call for devotedness to the great cause of Truth and righteousness. Events are

turn prevail among the nations in various parts of the earth which are calculated to lead us to the belief that in the designs of an all wise Providence it is his will that the Church should yet more conspicuously shine among men and that she should arise and shake herself from the dust of the earth and put on her beautiful garments, that she may become as a city set on a hill that cannot be hid. How important then, dear Friends, that we all endeavour through faithfulness to his heavenly requirings so to let our light shine before men, that they seeing our good works, may glorify our Father which is in heaven. What an animating and encouraging motive is thus held out, that frail and finite as we are, and dark and benighted as is the natural heart, that yet by the vivifying beams of the sun of righteousness, we may be enlightened, and enabled to promote in any measure so glorious a result. —

We are encouraged to believe that there are those, to whom these considerations are exceeding precious, and who according to their several allotments, are enabled to say with the Apostle, It is by grace I am what I am; ascribing all to him who died for them and rose again. We earnestly desire that the number of these should be increased; and that all should earnestly and diligently seek an interest in a crucified Saviour, the glorious means which in unspeakable mercy is provided for the restoration and salvation of fallen man.

The afflicting hand of an all-wise Father, which has fallen heavily upon the nations in latter times, has in great mercy been laid very lightly upon our part of the land. May our hearts be humbled under a grateful sense of his matchless mercy towards us, and reverently acknowledge that unto us belongeth shame and confusion of face, but unto him, all praise.

Amidst the turnings and overturnings of human events, and the commotions and excitements that prevail in the world, we are comforted, that there is for the devoted Christian a place of retreat, where the Lord's banner over him will be love. May we labour for an establishment therein, that in the storms and tempests which may assail us, we may be kept by his never failing arm of mercy, and be enabled to possess our souls in heavenly peace.

Our beloved friend Jacob Green, from your land, has been acceptably with us, at the present time.

With the salutation of love, we are, Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf, of said Meeting,

by Abraham Sheaman Jr. Clk

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Being again convened in this our Annual Assembly, we have to commemorate the goodness and tender mercy of our heavenly Father, in spreading over us the canopy of his Divine love, gathering into the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and under the tendering influence of which,

1833. our minds have been turned towards our distant Brethren, with affectionate regard, and we have felt your acceptable Epistle of 11th mo. last.

That returning periods of Epistolary communication tend to awaken those feelings of love for our distant Brethren, which are the sure badges of Discipleship, evidencing that we are one people, however remotely situated, engaged in the same great cause, the promotion of Truth and righteousness in the earth.

In reviewing the state of Society, the deficiencies reported in the accounts from our subordinate meetings, have brought a deep concern and exercise over us, under the influence of which the necessity has been impressively felt, of laying the axe to the root of the corrupt tree, that as the root is destroyed the branches thereof may wither and die. May it be the individual exercise and desire of our minds, so to submit ourselves to the Divine government, that we may experience a nearer and more intimate acquaintance with the operations of the Holy Spirit. For as our dependence comes to be placed on Christ our Redeemer, the love of God will be shed abroad in our hearts, bringing every thing therein, which is contrary to its own nature, in subjection to its teachings; and as we dwell under the quickening influence of this Divine love, the causes of complaint will be done away from amongst us, and our various testimonies will be more faithfully maintained.

Among the subjects which have at this time claimed the weighty consideration of this Meeting, is the concern, which has existed for several years, among the different Yearly Meetings on this Continent, that a more intimate union and nearer sympathy with one another may be brought about, by a free interchange of the exercises of the different Yearly Meetings, through the medium of a conference of suitable Friends, deputed for that service by the several Meetings. This concern having long claimed our serious attention, and having in various years been considered a desirable object, tending, if rightly conducted, to much advantage to the cause, we are induced, in brotherly freedom, to revive the subject, and offer it for your renewed attention. So important and desirable have we considered it, that, on some subjects, very interesting to the body of Friends, there should be a greater uniformity of views and feelings, that our Meeting last year appointed a Committee to attend a Conference, with Committees of other Yearly Meetings in Baltimore; and proposed for the consideration of the Conference, the following subjects, viz.

"1. What regulations or proceedings should be observed in setting up and laying down Yearly Meetings.

"2. The considering the present Disciplines of the several Yearly Meetings in relation to the publication of doctrinal and historical works, which might affect the reputation of the body at large.

"3. That of the greater uniformity of the Disciplines of different Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and particularly in regard to the manner of granting Certificates for Friends who may be engaged to travel in the ministry."

The subjects embraced in these propositions having been again considered by us, and still appearing increasingly

important, we beseech your attention to them, and in feelings of brotherly regard, express our desire, that you may as way may, then, join with the other Yearly Meetings, in a free discussion of them, by Committees of the various Yearly Meetings. And we are led to express our conviction, that under the cementing influence of the Love of the Gospel, such a measure will result in drawing us still nearer, one unto another, in that Love & Fellowship which is the true Badge of Discipleship in the Church of Christ.

With these Feelings, we remain,

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman Jun. Clk

To New York.

Dear Friends,

Having again been permitted to assemble together in this capacity, for the transaction of the important concerns of Society we have to acknowledge with humble thankfulness, that the wing of Ancient Goodness has, remarkably been extended over us, enabling us to dispose of the various subjects that have engaged our attention, in harmony and brotherly love, under a fresh sense of our dependence on Him who is the Leader & Teacher of his people. — And desires have been raised in our minds, that we may, unreservedly surrender ourselves to his guidance and direction, for it is only through his assistance, that we can be enabled to do any thing for the promotion of his blessed cause.

On this, as on former occasions, our brethren of other Yearly Meetings have been feelingly brought to our remembrance, and feeling ourselves nearly united, in the bonds of Christian Fellowship, with the Society exercised among them, we can indeed salute them in the love of the Gospel.

We have received your Epistle of the last month, which has been read in this Meeting to our satisfaction, together with communications of a similar character from other Yearly Meetings. These testimonials of the remembrance and regard of our distant Brethren, are truly grateful to our feelings: and we can but cherish a belief, that beneficial effects will continue to result from this method of communicating with each other, as it has a tendency to unite us more closely together as members of the same household of faith.

In our deliberations on the state of Society, we, also, have been introduced into deep and painful exercise on account of the deficiencies that appear among us, occasioned by the unfaithfulness of many of our members, in the support of those precious testimonies, which we, as a Society, are called upon to maintain. May we, dear Friends, endeavour faithfully to come up in our proper allotments in Society, and more fully devote ourselves to the service of our dear Redeemer. — Were this more generally the case, we believe that the advantages that would arise thereform would not be confined to our own religious Society, but that the influence of our example would extend to those around us, who, seeing our good works, would glorify our heavenly Father on our account.

1833.

We have greatly desired that Friends, every where, may be encouraged diligently to attend their Meetings, and when assembled for the solemn purpose of worshipping the Almighty that they may be concerned reverently to wait on Him for a renewal of strength. As we are thus engaged, we shall be favoured to experience a qualification to perform that interesting and indispensable duty, in spirit and in truth.

We have at this time, the acceptable company of our beloved friends Jonathan & Hannah Chapman Backhouse, from England, Jacob Green, from Ireland, and other dear Friends from several adjacent Yearly Meetings. The tender regard and condescension renewedly manifested towards us at this time, by the great Head of the Church, encourage us to hope that we are still the objects of his watchful care, and that the Lord hath not forsaken his people, nor forgotten to be gracious.

Finally Brethren, we bid you affectionately, Farewell, "commending you to God and the word of his grace, which is able to build us up in the most Holy Faith, and give us an inheritance among them that are sanctified."

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, Jr. Clk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

In this our annual assembly, we have been permitted, we humbly trust, mercifully to experience the overshadowing of Divine Goodness, which has enabled us to transact the business that has come before us, in harmony & brotherly love.

In adverting to the state of Society, as exhibited in the accounts from our subordinate Meetings, deficiencies are apparent, which have been cause of mourning to the rightly exercised amongst us; yet we are encouraged in the belief, that many of our members are concerned faithfully to support our various testimonies.

Among the interesting and important subjects that have claimed our attention at this time, is that of a more intimate acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures. Believing as we do, that they are given by the inspiration of God, and are able to make wise unto salvation, through Faith which is in Christ Jesus, how important is it, that we earnestly strive to avail ourselves of a knowledge of their contents, seeking, at the same time, the aid of that Spirit, by which alone we can effectually apply them to our hearts.

By the report of our Boarding School Committee received at this time, we have reason to believe that this Institution is becoming increasingly useful to the Youth of our Society.

We notice with satisfaction, the interest you are taking in the aboriginal inhabitants of this country, and we trust that good will result from your exertions in their behalf. We are still engaged in endeavouring to improve

the

condition of the few within our borders; and we have grounds to believe, that their endeavours have not been unavailing.

The situation of our brethren of the Indian race, has also been feelingly brought to view, with desires that the time may come, when this oppressed class of our fellow beings, may be suffered to go free.

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received and read among us. With the salutation of love,

We are your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Being again permitted to assemble in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, our distant Friends have been afresh brought to our remembrance, with feelings of brotherly love, by the reading of acceptable Epistles from our brethren of other Yearly Meetings.

Sense of the fifth month last, our tender feelings of sympathy for you on account of the smallness of your number, and an humbling sense therein manifested, of the importance of the work. But, dear Friends, though your number may be small, and many discouragements may present, remember that the work is the Lords, and that he can bestow it by many or by few. As you persevere in the faithful discharge of the various duties assigned you for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness on the earth, we doubt not you will be mercifully favoured with his directing & sustaining care, and experience him to be strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present help in the needful time; you will indeed witness the fulfilment of his gracious promise, that "Where two or three are gathered together in my Name, there am I in the midst of them."

Though we are removed from the painful, daily observance, of the evils of Slavery, yet our minds have at this, as at other times, been introduced into feelings of commiseration for the suffering and oppressed class: and we are animated in believing, that the views that our Society has long had on this subject, are extending; and we ardently desire, that the light of the Gospel may so prevail, and the love of God be so cherished, as to produce in the hearts of all, that love to fellow man, which will dispose us to regard all as brethren of the same family, and entitled to equal privileges.

This our annual assembly has been large, and we trust in good degree favoured with the presence of the good Shepherd. Notwithstanding many deficiencies have been brought to view by the usual accounts reported to this Meeting, yet we are encouraged to believe, that a succession of faithful labourers is coming up, yielding to the operation of that sanctifying power which qualifies for every good word and work; And we have been comforted with the company and becoming deportment of many of our beloved youth. Many subjects of much interest to the Society, have claimed our deliberations, and resulted in much harmony. A lively interest is still felt in this Yearly Meeting, and a care still continued, to promote the guarded education of our children and youth, and to train them up in the knowledge, & encourage their

[illegible] great cause of the Holy Scriptures, which through faith in Christ Jesus are able to make wise unto salvation. And we have much evidence that the School established by this Meeting has been a blessing to them, and a means of promoting the best interests of the Society.

The appointment of a Committee to meet in general Conference with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, has claimed our deliberate attention, and has resulted in the appointment of such a Committee.

With feelings of brotherly regard, we remain,

Your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf, of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received, and read at this time. It is comforting to enjoy this cordial interchange of sentiment with our distant brethren, and to renew, by these manifestations of brotherly regard, our sympathy with them.

The State of Society, as exhibited in the accounts from our subordinate Meetings, gives us reason to fear, that too many of our members are wanting in that decidedness to the cause of Truth which becomes our profession. Although some are thus deficient, there is cause of reverent thankfulness that many are found, in good measure, faithful in the maintenance of our testimonies & principles. — Much pertinent and affectionate counsel has been offered in this Meeting; the lukewarm have been admonished; and the honest-hearted encouraged to persevere. We believe we are loudly called upon in the present day to manifest our steadfast faith in the religion of Jesus Christ; and to exhibit in our lives and conversation an evidence that we are earnestly engaged to support our Christian testimonies.

We notice in your last epistle, that continued attention is paid to the people of colour under your care, and that their emigration to other governments in which they can enjoy their freedom, is gradually in progress. While we at all times rejoice in the success which has accompanied your efforts in this cause of philanthropy, we cannot but acknowledge a sincere and brotherly sympathy for you in the various embarrassments which attend the accomplishment of your object. We also observe, with much satisfaction, the solicitude which is felt among you for the education of your youth, and that a Boarding School under the direction and control of the Yearly Meeting is contemplated. Our School, established under similar circumstances, continues to be an object of deep, and we may say, increasing interest. The experience of several years affords an evidence that we have not been disappointed in our expectations in regard to its usefulness. — Liberal exertions have been made within the last two years to extend the advantages the Institution had already possessed, by affording means for a more thorough & systematic course of instruction.

Our Committee on Indian concerns have made a satisfactory report at this time, by which it appears that this interesting remnant, towards which we have extended some assistance, continue to improve in the arts and the comforts of civilized life.

Our Meeting has been large; and the various concerns of Society have been transacted in much harmony & Brotherly condescension. —— Humbly thankful for that preserving goodness which has attended our deliberations, we conclude with a salutation of love; and remain;

Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Although we have not received any Epistle from you at this time, yet we feel drawn in love to salute you, and to express to you, as we have been wont to do, the continuance of our brotherly & sympathetic feelings.

We are again assembled at our annual meeting, & feel that mercy is yet extended to us, that we are permitted thus to meet, and in a good degree of brotherly love, to conduct such business, connected with the discipline and best interests of the church, as has been brot before us.

We have been made thankful at this time, while we continue to mourn over many deficiencies, that a lively concern has been manifested for the support of our doctrines & testimonies — These, we believe, would become increasingly precious to our members generally, were their minds more thoroughly imbued with a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, in which they are all embraced — And we have felt renewedly concerned that, under the guidance of best wisdom, increased care should be extended to instruct our children in these sacred writings, "which are profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness." and are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

The day in which we live is one that calls for watchfulness and dedication, that as a people and as individuals we may be found in the possession of a godly zeal for the maintenance & spread of that faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart, and which rests its hopes on Jesus Christ our Saviour, who died for us and rose again, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God; our Holy Intercessor and Mediator between us and the Father. — The practical application of this faith to our state as sinners before God — to our unworthiness, as helpless beings unable to do any good thing of ourselves — has been brought afresh to our minds, and we have been made renewedly to acknowledge its efficacy and sufficiency to those that are enough contrited and humbled to receive it. When the devoted Christian has been subject to dispensations that have proved his faith, has he not found its lively exercise sufficient to enable him to say of every such chastisement, "it is well" — "Thy will be done." May we then, dear Friends, hold fast this faith in all boldness, by the justification of which, we are enabled to glory even in tribulation; "knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope; and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto us." [Rom.r V. 3–5.]

In Gospel love we remain your brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

1833. To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Being again convened in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting we would acknowledge with reverence the continued mercy and goodness of Him who hath once more permitted us to assemble together, and the renewed evidence we have felt that through his guidance alone, we can be brought by qualification to transact the affairs of his Church. Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been read at this time, together with epistolary communications from other Yearly Meetings, and it is cause of thankfulness that we are still remembered by our Friends abroad, and that they can salute us as Brethren.

In looking at the state of Society as reported by our subordinate Meetings, we have been led into deep exercise on account of the deficiencies which exist, and fervent desires have been raised for their removal. Yet we are encouraged in believing there are many among us who are still concerned to maintain our ancient principles and testimonies, and who are earnestly engaged to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints.

Let us, dear Friends, all be concerned, each one for himself, to be found watching unto prayer, keeping our hearts with all diligence, & endeavouring in self-abasedness to become humbled before the Lord, that he may strengthen us to live a more holy & perfect life, and enable us to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are are called. Let us oftener than the morning, enter into the closet of our hearts, and there in retirement of mind, patiently wait to know what is his will concerning us. Were we to become thus individually engaged, we believe we should be found daily bearing more faithfully all those precious testimonies we are called upon to bear, and manifesting more fully to the world by our lives and conversation that we were the followers of a crucified Saviour. We desire Friends every where to be encouraged in the attendance of our religious Meetings, both on first-days and the middle of the week; and when thus assembled together to centre down into a solemn frame of mind, desiring that we may be qualified to worship the Great Head of the Church in Spirit and in Truth.

It is a satisfaction to learn by your Epistle, that a concern for the religious and guarded education of the dear youth is increasing among you: and we wish you may be encouraged to persevere in this important duty, believing that a blessing will attend your endeavours. From the report of our Boarding School Committee, we are led to believe that that Institution is increasing in usefulness.

The concerns of the people of colour we perceive are still claiming your attention. We are desirous that in all our movements towards this oppressed class of our fellow-beings, we may be directed and guided by Divine wisdom, through which alone we can expect our labours in their cause, to be crowned with a blessing.

The report of our Committee on the Indian affairs has been acceptable, and as there are grounds for believing that the remnant among us are making some progress towards civilization, our Committee has been continued.

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jun.r Clerk.

1834.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing on the 6th day of the week, at Newport and Dartmouth, on Fifth day, the 15th, and at Newport, for Discipline, on

Second day morning, 16th of 6th month, 1834.

Persons being returned on all our Quarterly Meetings the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting; are,

For Rhode Island. Thomas Anthony, John Wilbor, Oliver Chace, Stephen Gould, Jonathan Evans, Thomas Howland. For Salem, John Sage, Hazard Chace, Thomas Davis, Samuel Lee, Jonathan Richard, William Russell, Oliver Thompson, Moses H. Dick. For Sandwich, Jonathan Taber, Prince Gardner, Jeremiah Coffin, Elihu Davis, Samuel Merritt, Joshua Swift. For Falmouth, William Cobb, Whitehill Webber, Oliver Dennett, Thomas Jones, Thomas Dutch. For Smithfield, Thomas Fry, Hazard Harnum, Zebulon Cook, James A. Fry. For Vassalboro, South Parr, Edmund Cole, David Eugene Clement, Nathan Josiah Jones, Joseph Briggs. For Dover, Lindley M. Hoag, Levi Burney, Joshua Meader, John S. Low, Stephen J. Chase.

When names being called they were all present, except two from Rhode Island, and one from Smithfield, for whose absence cause was rendered that were satisfactory to the Meeting.

Having at this time the acceptable company of our beloved Friends, Thomas Arnett of Cedar Monthly Meeting, held in Clinton County, Ohio; Eleazer Clark, of Hilboro' Mo. Meeting in Randolph County, East Carolina; Christopher Healey, of Falls Monthly Meeting, in Bucks Co. Pennsylvania; Joseph Bevan, of Westbrook Mo. Meeting; and Richard Hatt, of Purchase Mo. Meeting, in the State of New York; satisfactory testimonials of the unity of Friends with their religious and present religious engagements, were read at this sitting.

Our friends Benjamin Wright, of East Cain Mo. Meeting, Ohio, companion to Rebecca Updegraff, and Robert Alexander, of Falls Mo. Meeting, Pennsylvania, companion to Christopher Healey, also produced satisfactory minutes from their Mo. Meetings respectively.

Our beloved friend Jonathan Barkhouse, of Nova Scotia, who has heretofore produced satisfactory certificates of the unity of his friends with his present religious engagements in this country, is also acceptably with us at this time.

The general Epistle of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London in the 5th month last year, with its Epistle addressed to this Meeting; an Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, and one from each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends in this country, except Virginia, were read at this sitting, to our edification and comfort.

It appears by the accounts now received from some of the Quarterly Meetings, and by verbal information, that the Representation from the others, that considerable attention has been given to the establishment of Libraries of Friends' Books, as recommended last year.

J.

1834. It appears that all our Quarterly Meetings have taken the necessary care for the present year; that no Epistles of Correspondence have been received. Nathan Hall, Thomas Hillis, Elisha Tillson, Paul Tucker and Eli Kinney, were appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, consisting of a sum sufficient to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and produce a treasurer to make report at a future sitting.

By the accounts now received, we are informed, that Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Salem M°. Meeting, in the appointment of Asher Chase, and with Seabrook M°. Meeting in the appointment of Polly Dow, to the station of Elders. That Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with Pembroke M°. Meeting, in the appointment of Alice Rogers to the same station. That Falmouth Quarterly Meeting has united with Dunkan M°. Meeting, in the appointment of Elisha Tillis, to the station of an Elder, and with Falmouth M°. Meeting, in the appointment of John M. Hinat and John Winslow to the same station. That Uxbridge Quarterly Meeting has united with Uxbridge and Sutton M°. Meetings, in the appointment of Edmund Hubbard, Elizabeth Bowerman, Elizabeth Taylor, Elijah Pinkham, Hannah Whitehouse, and Daniel Sutton, to the station of Elders; and with Sidney, [illegible] M°. Meetings, in offering the public ministry of Charles F. Coffin, and Newton Jones.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

Thomas Anthony on behalf of the Representatives, proposed the appointment of Abraham Sherman, jun. as Clerk, and Stephen F. Chase, as Assistant Clerk of this Meeting, which was united with, and they were appointed to those services, for the year ensuing.

One of the Representatives from Rhode Island, who was absent in the morning, attended at this sitting.

Having at this Meeting, the acceptable company of our esteemed friends Asenath Clark, of Marlboro' M°. Meeting, in Randolph County, North-Carolina; Rebecca Updegraff, of Short Creek M°. Meeting, Ohio; Anna H. Thorn, of Pine Plains M°. Meeting, New York, and Sarah H. Upton, of Creek M°. Meeting, in the same State; satisfactory certificates of the unity of their Friends with their Ministry & present religious engagements were now read. Deborah Cope, of Birmingham M°. Meeting, Pennsylvania; companion to Asenath Clark: and Hannah Collins, of the M°. Meeting of New-York, companion to Rebecca Updegraff, also produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends in their engagements.

Our beloved friend Hannah Chapman Backhouse, of Great Britain, is also again acceptably with us.

A report of the Committees of Ohio and Indiana Yearly Meetings, on the subject of their united concern for improving the situation of some of the native inhabitants of this country, which have heretofore resided within their limits, and which was referred to in the Epistle from Ohio, giving some interesting particulars of their situation in their new location, West of

the Institution was met with feelings of sympathy for their objects of their Christian care and with desires for the improvement of Friends in what they may still lack and how they can best do so for these future remnants of a once numerous and powerful people.

Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, John Wilbur, Moses Congdon, Stephen H. Chase, John Griscom, Asa Farnum, John Warren, Samuel Boyce, Moses H. Purdon, John M. Lang, William Russell, Thomas Pinkham, William King, Jesse Farnum, Thomas Nichols & Thos. Evans were appointed a Committee to prepare, as way may open for it, Ways of Communication to the Yearly Meetings of London & Ireland, and to the several Yearly Meetings of Friends in this country, and produce them at a future sitting.

The annual Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, and being satisfactory to this Meeting, copies thereof were directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly & Monthly Meetings.

During the consideration of the Report, a deep feeling of interest for the best welfare of the Institution, was spread over the Meeting: and while the benefits that have already resulted from it to the Children & Youth of the Society were freely acknowledged, an earnest desire was expressed, that the Committee, in the discharge of the important and arduous duties confided to them by the Yearly Meeting, may be encouraged steadily to keep in view, the great objects which led to its establishment, as a means for promoting the acquisition of useful learning, in connexion with the moral and religious improvement of the Children, consistently with the principles and testimonies, which we as a Society believe ourselves called upon to maintain. The recommendation of the Committee relative to plainness and simplicity of attire was cordially united with. The Committees of Monthly Meetings were encouraged to extend an increasing care in this respect; and Parents and others having the charge of Children, were persuasively exhorted to lend their assistance in promoting this desirable object.

The following is the Report of the Committee.

"To the Yearly Meeting. The Boarding School Committee Report, That they have endeavoured to discharge the service confided to them by the Yearly Meeting, during the past year, in attending to the various concerns of the Institution, which have been conducted, to a good degree of satisfaction.

"Meetings have been regularly continued, and harmony has been preserved. The average number of Scholars has been one hundred & thirty-eight; seventeen of whom have been pupils in the department of the School for instruction in Languages, &c. The School is continued under the immediate superintendence of Enoch & Lydia Lord, in which capacity they are assisted by Stephen & Hannah Gould. John Griscom is still employed, and engaged to superintend the literary department of the Institution. Moses H. Cartland, Silas Earl, and Jonathan Griscom are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School; and Deborah Comdall, Mary H. Griscom, Caroline Cartland, Martha Barker, and Anna T. Lockwood, in the Girls'. Samuel J. Gummere is continued in the department for Languages, &c.

The accounts of the Treasurer and Superintendent have

[illegible] and [illegible] and the Committee [illegible] that [illegible] any of the scholars be continued the same as last year; and that the privilege of quarterly one third, at the time of [illegible] be continued to Committee. Visitors are requested not to neglect the established regulation of the school, that the expenses of each quarter be paid in advance.

"The Committee believe it proper again to recommend to Friends in sending their children to the School to observe as much as may be, the periods of time proposed two years since, viz at the time of our Yearly Meeting, or in the first week of the second, fifth, eighth and eleventh months.

"The importance of maintaining plainness of dress in the inmates of this Institution, has often claimed the serious attention of the Committee; and we think it right at this time to revive with Friends the necessity of having their children habited in plain attire, and that no articles of apparel, unsuitable through want of plainness, be brought by them to the School. And that Committees of Monthly Meetings may be enabled to render the necessary advice and assistance, Friends are requested to be careful to make application to them for certificates, in sufficient season to afford them this opportunity.

"In reviewing the state of the School for the past year, we have had gratefully to acknowledge, that the family and station have been favoured in health; and that the Institution continues to afford encouraging evidence of its usefulness to the youth of our Society.

"Signed on behalf of the School Committee, at a Meeting held 2d of 3d month, 1834.

William Jenkins, Clerk."

Adjourned to the 3d hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third day afternoon, the 5th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

Our esteemed friend Elizabeth Coggeshall, of New York, being now in the acceptable attendance of this Meeting, a certificate of the unity of her friends with this concern, was produced & read at this sitting.

The Meeting proceeded to consider the state of Society, as exhibited in the answers to the Queries, the reading of which was gone through with.

The many deficiencies in the support of the various testimonies and duties to which our relation, thus brot to view, led to a deep exercise of mind on the part of many Friends, and to the expression of much pertinent & feeling counsel and advice; particularly as to the neglect in the attendance of our religious Meetings, evincing a want of love to God, in withholding from him that grateful homage which is due from his dependent creatures, and at the same time, leading to a want of love to man. The language of sympathy and encouragement was freely extended to the beloved Youth, and an earnest solicitude expressed, that by yielding their hearts, an early and a willing sacrifice, they might be preserved from the many snares that are

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in the world, and as they sentences to yield obedience to the manifestations of Truth. Some have a want of the meetings strictly to be attended to, & the parents who set, but a small concern for such to reward. And to parents, the important duty of training up their children in the way they should go, instructing them in the true grounds of our principles and testimonies, and giving them a knowledge of the dear rate at which their quiet enjoyment was purchased by our worthy predecessors. was feelingly urged. Various other subjects were impressively brought into view.

The Committee appointed to consider the proposition for the removal of the Yearly Meeting to some more central place, produced the following report:-

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

The Committee to whom was referred the proposition, that our Yearly Meeting be moved to a more central place, have several times during the week met, and had the subject under consideration; and at a meeting of the Committee held at Newport to day, a free interchange of sentiment and feeling on the subject referred to the Committee having taken place which has been accompanied by a comfortable evidence of concern on Friends minds so to move as to preserve the harmony of the body. We have with much unanimity concluded to report to the Yearly Meeting, a recommendation for a reference of the subject another year, under the care of a Committee.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

16th Mo. 17th, 1834. by Stephen A. Chase, Clerk."

Which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the subject was continued under the care of the same Committee, who were requested to report next year.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth Day morning, the 18th.

Again met pursuant to adjournment.

The subject of the awarded Library and Religious instruction of the Children & Youth of the Society having again been fully solicited to claim the solid consideration of the Meeting; and the importance of a more intimate knowledge of the present state of Education among Friends, in the various sections of this Yearly Meeting, being generally felt, we appoint Daniel Howland, Rowland Green, Joshua Meader, John Willis, William Jenkins, Edward Wing, Josiah Jones, Lindley M. Hoag, Thomas Jones, Thomas Arthur, William Hadsell, Peter Thornton, Thomas Peckham, Mark Reed, John Spooner, George Howland, Francis Tabor, James Tucker, Moses H. Beede, Prince Gardner, Edmund Cates, Caleb Michels, Joseph D. Hoag, Stephen Gould, Paul Taber, John Davis, Nathan Wood, Paul Wing, William Almy, Rowland Rathbun, Stephen A. Chase, Moses Parmum, Thomas Grover, Nathan Tripp and David Sisson, to unite with a Committee of the Women's Meeting in considering this, and such other subjects as may be referred to them, and to report thereon at a future sitting or sittings of this Meeting.

The subject of the continuance of the present, or the appointment of a new Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the Boarding School is referred as above.

1834.

The Committee appointed to join in a Letter to the Treasurer's accounts and to whom is referred the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed for the purpose, have settled with the Treasurer, and find a balance in his hands of five hundred & twenty-two Dollars and 86 cents. "We propose the sum of Eleven hundred Dollars to be raised to supply the Treasury for the year ensuing, and John Parmenter for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m. 17, 1834. Stephen Gould."

Which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting; and in conformity therewith, John Parmenter was appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing. It was concluded to raise $1100.— the sum proposed; and our several Quarterly Meetings were appointed to forward to the Treasurer, their respective proportions of the same; viz. Rhode-Island 30 per cent. Salem 12½ — Sandwich 30. Falmouth 4½ Smithfield 12½ Dartmore 4. Dover 6½.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Again met.

The Committee appointed by this Meeting last year, to meet in general Conference with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, produced the following report, which being read and considered, was accepted; the Committee now under appointment was released from further service; and the subject referred for renewed consideration, to another year.

"The Report.—

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee appointed by this Meeting last year, to meet in general Conference with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, report, That several of their number proceeded, soon after the close of our last Yearly Meeting, to Baltimore, and there met and conferred with Friends appointed for a similar purpose by the Yearly Meetings of New-York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, and after a united consideration of the subjects directed to their attention by the several Yearly Meetings, agreed on a Report, which is herewith presented, and by which it will be perceived that way did not open for the General Committee, under the circumstances in which they were assembled, to do any thing more than simply to suggest their views, without making any definite proposition for another Meeting; yet from the importance that has before been felt by Friends of this Yearly Meeting, in what to this concern, we would suggest for consideration, the propriety of referring the subject, by minute, to another year.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m. 18. 1834. Abm. Shearman, Jun.

Lydia Read.

"To the Yearly Meetings of New-England, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana:

Committees of the Yearly Meetings above mentioned, having met in Baltimore, agreeably to appointment on the 1st day of

To the Yearly Meetings of New-England, New-York, Baltimore, Virginia, North-Carolina, Ohio and Indiana.

Committees of the Yearly Meetings above mentioned, having met in Baltimore, agreeably to appointment, on the 1st day of the 7th month, 1833, proceeded to the consideration of the subjects directed to their attention by the several Yearly Meetings.

The weight of responsibility of our appointment, and the duties now devolving upon us, have been felt to be peculiarly impressive, not only from the nature of the subjects demanding our attention, but from the circumstance that many of those who are under this appointment are now absent, as well as from other considerations that have had an influence on our minds at the present time.

We are aware that from the wide extent over which the Society is spread, and from a variety of other causes, it is not easy for all who may be under such an appointment to give their attendance; yet we have very forcibly felt in our present situation, the caution, how far we may form *conclusions* on the subjects before us, or make *propositions* to the Meetings by which we have been appointed. But while on the one hand the necessity of this guard has been seen, we have believed that the duties of our appointment demand that we should suggest with freedom, the views which have been presented to our minds, during our deliberations on the present occasion.

In humbly waiting on the Great Head of the Church, and, we trust, under a measure of his holy and cementing influence, we have been renewedly made sensible that the design of Infinite Wisdom in gathering and preserving the Society as a distinct People, has been, that they should be, however widely scattered, one body, holding the same precious Truth, and bound together by the bonds of Gospel fellowship, Christian communion, and brotherly love; that we should be members one of another, having so near and intimate a relation to each other, that if one member (or portion of the body) suffer, all the members suffer with it, and if one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it. This intimate relation of the different parts of the body to each other, and the strength they instrumentally derive from participating together of the one vital Source of strength and consolation, lies at the foundation of our religious institution. It is on this general ground that Meetings both for worship and discipline have been established; and for this mutual assistance, the connection and gradation of meetings for business, have led from Preparative to Monthly, from Monthly to Quarterly, and from Quarterly to Yearly Meetings. The connection and subordination established by this order, it is well known has been for rendering mutual assistance, and tenderly taking care of the flock. To preserve the relation in which the several Yearly Meetings stand to each other, as making up one body, united "by joints and bands," our Epistolary correspondence was instituted and has been maintained, and at different periods, committees, by special invitation, have been sent by one or more Yearly Meetings, to unite with the Meeting making the request, in the consideration of important subjects. And the separate meeting of Committees, in the capacity in which we are now convened, has been adopted as occasions have appeared to demand. We do not look to stated or frequent recurrence of meetings of Committees of this character, but we apprehend that the best interests of our Society demand, that the necessity of mutual counsel and assistance, in cases of a general nature, should be strongly impressed on the minds of Friends.—While the Yearly Meetings must exercise their own discretion in fulfilling these reciprocal obligations, in such manner as the wisdom of the Great Head of the Church

may direct, whether by Epistolary communications, or by Committees from the several Yearly Meetings, mingling with the Meeting requesting assistance, or by Committees in general conference, or whatever mode may be best adapted to the object.

Under these solemn impressions, we have approached the consideration of the specific subjects referred to us by the different Yearly Meetings. These may chiefly be comprehended in three divisions. 1st. The setting up and discontinuance of Yearly Meetings, with the different objects connected with or growing out of such proceedings. 2d. A greater uniformity and agreement of the Disciplines of the several Yearly Meetings, in their more important points. And lastly, the examination and circulation of Books of a Doctrinal or Historical character, affecting the reputation or interests of the Society; together with the presentation of memorials to the General Government, on behalf of the African descendants.

In regard to the setting up and laying down of Yearly Meetings, and what may be necessarily connected with such transactions, we apprehend there is a general assent throughout the Society, that some regulations touching these objects are demanded. We have no doubt that it is the prevailing sentiment in the different Yearly Meetings, that the body of Society should be, in some way, consulted on such occasions. If therefore it should be found, that the subject has so long rested on the minds of Friends as to have ripened into a conclusion, that no single Yearly Meeting should take a step of so much importance; if Friends are prepared, (which we have no doubt is the case,) when a Yearly Meeting is impressed with a belief that it would be proper for it to be divided, or for its own character as a Yearly Meeting to cease—to communicate their prospect to the other Yearly Meetings, and invite their participation in the concern—we do not apprehend that any injury will arise from our not proposing the *manner* in which that assistance may be afforded. The several Yearly Meetings so invited will exercise their own discretion and freedom, whether to participate in the consideration or not, or whether, in rendering their fraternal assistance, to do it by written communications or by committees to meet at the Yearly Meeting concerned, or elsewhere.

The second subject, relating to the discrepancies now found in the Disciplines of the several Yearly Meetings, has also engaged our weighty deliberation. These discrepancies on important points, affecting the order of Society, the intercourse of Meetings, and the rights of membership, or cases requiring disownment, have increased to an extent, involving, as we apprehend, very serious consequences at present, and portending, unless some remedy should be applied, results which cannot be anticipated without a deep feeling of concern. We are aware, however, that notwithstanding the importance of this object has long been felt, and perhaps, before this time universally acknowledged in the Society, it will necessarily be a work of time, and even the very *manner* of obtaining it will require still further to be ripened in the minds of Friends. But as we continue under the concern, as we look for the unfoldings of that wisdom by which alone the prosperity of the Church can be promoted, the difficulties which now appear to be in the way will be removed; and the prevalence of harmony and brotherly love, and the nearer approximation of our codes of Discipline, will be advanced together. If this concern should rest on the minds of Friends of the several Yearly Meetings, and when any of these may apprehend that any important change of a general nature in their own Disciplines may be attended with advantage, this information

should be communicated to the other Yearly Meetings, with an invitation, in brotherly love, for their participation in the consideration of the subject, we doubt not, that way will be made for such an interchange of sentiment and feeling as will *tend* to promote the desired object. The wisdom which is from above, as it is waited for, we believe will not only incline our hearts to bear one another's burdens, but will point out the manner by which the united sense of the body can be most effectually obtained.

The sanctioning of works affecting the character of the Society, and the presentation of Memorials to the General Government,—are both subjects of importance; and have been forwarded for the consideration of this Committee. In our deliberations on them, we have believed that an increasing concern prevails in the Society at large, that a greater guard may be placed around them. The Disciplines of the respective Yearly Meetings have included them within the constitutional powers of the several Meetings for Sufferings. And yet, on particular occasions of importance, assistance has been invited by some of those Meetings, and rendered by others; in some cases by written communications, and in others by Committees. The prevalence of brotherly love, and a deep sense of the relations in which the different parts of the Society stand to each other, we apprehend will preserve, if not increase the freedom which heretofore has existed between those Meetings, in opening the way for mutual counsel and assistance in cases of general interest and unusual importance, and in such manner as best wisdom may direct. The greater facility of circulating Friends' Books, is also a subject interesting to the Society at large.

The question proposed by one of the Yearly Meetings,—Whether there should be stated times fixed for the meetings of Committees from the several Yearly Meetings, has not escaped our attention. We consider it virtually answered in the foregoing part of this Report, so far as we think it competent for us to answer. No such arrangement has appeared to us to be necessary; but that the whole subject of mutual counsel and interchange of sentiment and feeling between the several Yearly Meetings, be left with those bodies, for them to move in, as the consideration of particular subjects may demand, and the wisdom of Truth dictate.

Signed on behalf of a meeting of Committees of the Yearly Meetings aforesaid, held at Baltimore, on the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th of the 7th month, 1833, by

THOMAS HOWLAND,
SAMUEL PARSONS,
HUGH BALDERSTON,
THOMAS LADD,
NATHAN MENDENHALL,
BENJAMIN WRIGHT,
WILLIAM HOBBS,
ANNE MOTT,
DOROTHY HOPKINS,
REBECCA T. UPDEGRAFF,
MARGARET MORRIS.

[illegible] to the recollection of the Society, & direct to their attention by the several Yearly Meetings.

The weight of responsibility of our appointment, and the duties now devolving upon us, have been felt by us, sensibly impressed upon our minds; the nature of the subjects demanding our attention, but from the consideration that many of those who are under this appointment are now absent, as well as from other considerations that have had an influence on our minds at the present time.

We are aware, how the wide extent over which the Society is spread, and from a variety of other causes, it is not easy for all who may be under such an appointment to give their attendance; yet we have very sensibly felt in our present situation, the caution how far we may form conclusions on the subjects before us or make propositions to the Meetings by which we have been appointed. But while on the one hand the necessity of this guard has been felt, we have believed that the duties of our appointment demand that we should suggest with freedom, the views which have been presented to our minds, during our deliberations on the present occasion.

In humbly waiting on the Great Head of the Church, and we trust, under a measure of his holy and cementing influence, we have been renewedly made sensible that the design of Infinite Wisdom in gathering and preserving the Society as a distinct People, has been, that they should be, [illegible] united, our lot, beholders the dear, precious Truth, & [illegible] together in the bond of Love & Gospel fellowship & Christian communion, & brotherly love; that we should be members one of another, having so near & intimate a relation to each other, that if one member or portion of the body suffer, all the members suffer with it, and if one member be honoured all the members rejoice with it. This intimate relation of the different parts of the body to each other, and the strength they instrumentally derive from participating together of the one vital source of strength and consolation, is at the foundation of our religious institution. It is on this general ground that meetings for discipline have been established; and for this purpose are those of correspondence and gradation of meetings, for Quarterly, Monthly & Preparative to Monthly, from Monthly to Quarterly, and from Quarterly to Yearly Meetings. The connection and subordination established by this order, it is well known has been for cherishing mutual assistance, and tenderly taking care of the flock. To preserve the union in which the several Yearly Meetings stand to each other, as members of one body, united "by joints and bands," our Epistolary correspondence was instituted and has been maintained; and at different periods committees, by special invitation, have been sent to one or more Yearly Meetings to unite with the Meeting in holding the concern, in the consideration of important subjects. And the separate meeting of Committees in the capacity in which we are now convened, has been adopted as occasions have appeared to demand. We do not look to stated or frequent returns of meetings of Committees of this character, but we apprehend that the best interests of our Society demand, that the necessity of mutual counsel and assistance, in cases of a general nature, should be strongly impressed on the minds of Friends. That the Yearly Meetings may exercise their own discretion in the fulfilling these incumbent obligations in such manner as the wisdom of the great Head of the Church may direct, whether by Epistolary communication or Committees from the several Yearly Meetings meeting with the Meeting under existing circumstances or by Committees in general conference or whatever may be best adapted to the object.

Minutes

[illegible] considera-
tion, of the several subjects referred to us by the different Yearly Meetings.
These may chiefly be comprehended in three divisions. 1st. The setting
up and discontinuance of Yearly Meetings, with the different objects
connected with or growing out of such proceedings. 2d. A greater uniformity
and agreement in the Disciplines of the several Yearly Meetings, in their
more important points. And lastly, The examination and circulation of
Books of a Doctrinal or Historical character, affecting the reputation or
interests of the Society: together with the presentation of memorials to the
General Government, on behalf of the African descendants.

In regard to the setting up and laying down of Yearly
Meetings, and what may be necessarily connected with such transactions, we apprehend there is a general assent throughout the Society,
that some regulations touching those objects are demanded. We have
no doubt that it is the prevailing sentiment in the different Yearly Meetings,
that the body of Society should be, in some way, consulted on such occasions.
If it should be found that the subject has so long rested on the
minds of Friends as to have ripened into a conviction, that no single Yearly
Meeting should take a step of so much importance; if Friends are pre-
pared, which we have no doubt is the case, when a Yearly Meeting is
impressed with a belief that it would be proper for it to be divided, or for
its own character as a Yearly Meeting to cease — to communicate their
prospect to the other Yearly Meetings, and invite their participation in the
concern — we do not apprehend that any injury will arise from our
not prescribing the manner in which that assistance may be afforded.
The several Yearly Meetings so invited will exercise their own discre-
tion and freedom, whether to participate in the consideration or not,
or whether, in rendering their judgment assistance, to do it by written
communications or by committees to meet at the Yearly Meeting con-
cerned, or elsewhere.

The second subject, relating to the discrepancies now found
in the Disciplines of the several Yearly Meetings, had also engaged our
weighty deliberation. This discrepancies on important points, affecting
the order of Society, the intercourse of Meetings, and the rights of
membership, or cases requiring discernment, have increased to an extent,
involving, as we apprehend, very serious consequences at present, & portend-
ing, unless some remedy should be applied, results which cannot be antici-
pated without a deep feeling of concern. We are aware, however, that
notwithstanding the importance of this object has long been felt, & perhaps,
before this time universally acknowledged in the Society, it will necessarily
be a work of time, and even the very manner of obtaining it will require
still further to be ripened in the minds of Friends. But as we con-
tinue under the concern, as we look for the unfoldings of that wis-
dom by which alone the prosperity of the Church can be promoted,
the difficulties which now appear to be in the way will be removed,
and the prevalence of harmony and brotherly love, and the nearer ap-
proximation of our codes of Discipline, will be advanced together.
If this concern should rest on the minds of Friends of the several
Yearly Meetings, and when any of those may apprehend that any
important change of a general nature in their own Disciplines may
be attended with advantage, this information should be communi-
cated to the other Yearly Meetings, with an invitation, in brotherly love

[illegible] tend to promote the desired object. The wisdom which is from above, as it is waited for, we believe will not only instruct our hearts to love one another fervently, but will point out the manner in which the united labor of the body can be most effectually obtained.

The functioning of works of the Society of the Friends, and the presentation of Memorials to the General Government, are both subjects of importance; and have been forwarded for the consideration of this Committee. In our deliberations on them, we have believed that an increasing concern prevails in the Society at large, that a greater guard may be placed around them. The Discipline of the respective Yearly Meetings have included them within the constitutional powers of the several Meetings for sufferings. And yet, on particular occasions of importance, assistance has been invited by some of those Meetings, and rendered by others; in some cases by written communications, and in others by Committees. The prevalence of brotherly love, and a deep sense of the relations in which the different parts of the Society stand to each other, we apprehend will preserve, if not increase the freedom which has hitherto subsisted between those Meetings, in opening the way for mutual counsel and assistance in cases of general interest & importance, and in such manner as best wisdom may direct. The greater facility of circulating Friends' Books is also a subject interesting to the Society at large.

The question proposed by one of the Yearly Meetings — Whether there should be stated times fixed for the meetings of Committees from the several Yearly Meetings, has not escaped our attention. We consider it not readily answered in the foregoing part of this Report, so far as we think it appropriate for us to answer. To such a query must be attended to with solemnity; but that the whole subject of mutual counsel & interchange of sentiment and advice between the several Yearly Meetings, be left within those bodies for them to move in, as the consideration of particular subjects may demand, and the wisdom of Truth dictate.

Signed in and on behalf of the Committee of the [illegible] Meeting aforesaid, held at Baltimore, on the 1st, 2d, 3d & 4th of the 7th month, 1833.

Thomas Kirkbride,
Samuel Levering,
Hugh Balderston,
Thomas Kaighn,
Nathan Mendenhall,
Benjamin Albright
William Hobbs.

Ann Mott,
Dorothy Hopkins,
Rebecca Hydegraff,
Margaret Morris,

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare and produce at a future sitting, essays of indorsements or minutes, for our Friends now visiting us from other Yearly Meetings in this country; and also a Certificate for our friend Jonathan Backhouse, from Great Britain, who we are informed, apprehends that his religious engagements in this country are drawing towards a close. The Committee to act in concert with a Committee of the Women's Meeting in any case upon their united attention.

The Records

The Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, and this Meeting [illegible] to the concurrence [illegible] to the Meeting, the Friends now under appointment were continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the next ensuing year, & they are accordingly appointed. The Committee named this morning have leave to propose a few additional names should they deem it advisable.

A Minute of Falmouth Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved Friend Edward Cobb, was read, and directed to be recorded.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 19th.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Our Beloved friend John Warren being set at liberty to [illegible] a religious visit to Friends and others in Great Britain & Ireland, is appointed William Jenkins, Clement Hazlehurst, Paul Jones, Wm. Cobb, Arnold Congdon, Jacob Meader, Hiram Chase, George Howland, David Bacon, Rowland Greene, John D. Long, John Parsons, and Elisha Bowditch, to confer with him on behalf of this Meeting, any necessary assistance relative to his concern.

The Committee to which that subject was referred, proposed that the following Friends, viz.

Moses Brown,	Thomas Howland,	Geo. Howland,	Peter B. Aldrich,
William Almy,	Stephen A. Chase,	Abraham Tucker,	Samuel Wing,
Arnold Howland,	Robert Rathbun,	Harvey Chase,	Ebenr Wing,
Rowland Greene,	John Osborne,	Jona. Nichols,	Stephen Rogers,
Nicholas Congdon,	Daniel Haight,	Wm. Hitchcock,	Abm. Potter,
Elijah Chase,	Wm. Sharpman, Jr.	Stephen Jones, Jr.	Elijah Johnson,
John Wilbur,	Thomas Jones,	Joseph Davis,	John Macomber,
William Jenkins,	Elisha Thorp,	Isaac R. Wilford,	Nathan Breed, [illegible]
Walter Allen,	Comfort Howland,	Edward Wing,	Benja. Fry,
Jos. Metcalf,	Thomas Fry, of Dutchess	Moses Aldrich,	Wm. Beckwith,
James Tucker,	Silas Earle,	Jona. Congdon,	Joseph Howland,
John Parsons,	Moses Parsons,	Arnold Congdon,	Abel Corbin,
Benja. Peckham,	Ebenezer Pope,	Jame. Fry,	Seth Pillsbury, Varnum
David Burgess,	Thomas Anthony,	Samuel Joyce,	Moses H. Bedee,
Francis Taber,	Wm. Reynolds,	John Meader,	Joseph D. Hoag,
Benjamin Hall,	Josiah Jones,	David Thorp,	Thomas Pinkham,
Jonathan Dennis,	Samuel B. Jones,	Elijah Cope,	Josiah Jones,
John Brown,	Daniel Johnson,	Sands King,	and
William Cobb,	Barzd Mitchell,	Wm. H. Robinson,	John Howland, Jr.

should constitute a Committee on the part of this Meeting for the Government and superintendence of the Boarding School, which was united with, and they, with such Friends as may be named by the Women's Meeting, were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment.

The Committee on Indian concerns produced the following Report viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee on Indian affairs, Report, That some attention has been given during the past year, to the concern of the Yearly Meeting on behalf of this people, and we have the satisfaction to state, that there has been some improvement within the past year, in the cultivation

of War in order, and that some additional Women Friends be appointed to visit them, and that Abner Hussey be added to the Committee appointed from this with those of Rhode Island and Dartmouth Quarterly Meetings, to visit the Schools among the Indians within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, and to report to the next Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed last year to visit the Indians, reported that they had performed the service assigned them, and that they were satisfied in the belief that the religious visit had been useful to the Indians, and that the Committee had been received by them with kindness and affection. They also informed this Meeting that the Indians had made considerable progress in the cultivation of their lands, and in the improvement of their dwellings, and that they had also made some progress in the manufacture of cloth, and that they had a School among them, which appeared to be in a prosperous state, and that the Indians appeared to be desirous of having their children taught to read and write the English language. The Committee were encouraged to believe that their visit had been useful to the Indians, and that they were received by them with kindness and affection. They also informed this Meeting that the Indians had made considerable progress in the cultivation of their lands, and in the improvement of their dwellings, and that they had also made some progress in the manufacture of cloth, and that they had a School among them, which appeared to be in a prosperous state, and that the Indians appeared to be desirous of having their children taught to read and write the English language. A part of the Committee have visited the School, and had the satisfaction to find them making some progress in learning, and we are encouraged to believe that they will in future cooperate with Friends in the prosecution of such measures as will promote their comfort, and gradually lead them to the enjoyment of civil and domestic life.

On behalf of the Committee,

John Warren.

Newport, 6mo 18, 1834.

which being read, the attention given by the Committee to the objects of their appointment was satisfactory to Friends, and the encouraging nature of the Report leads us to believe that usefulness will result from a continuance of care on the part of this Meeting. The Friends now under appointment, viz: John Warren, Peleg Peckham, Stephen Jones, of Westerly, Noah Read, Ebenezer Peckham, Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, & Abijah Chase, were continued, & it was left with them as way might open for promoting the objects in Yearly Meeting had in view in this concern, viz. to promote among them the comforts of civilized life, by encouraging them to avail themselves of their own resources which appear to be competent for this purpose. And they were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee appointed in 1832, and continued last year, to visit Quarterly, Monthly, and particular Meetings, and individual members, should occasion require, and as way might open, and to endeavour to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles and testimonies, and in the preservation of love & unity produced the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting

"The Committee appointed in 1832, and continued last year, to visit subordinate Meetings, and for other purposes, report that they have as occasion appeared to require, and way opened for it, given some attention to the objects of their appointment, and are united in the belief that usefulness may result from the appointment of a similar Committee, at the present time.

On behalf of the Committee,

Moses Easton,

Betsey Stanton.

Newport, 6mo 19, 1834.

which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting; and the Friends now under appointment, with the addition of Noah Read and William Cobb, were continued in the service, to unite therein with a similar Committee of the Women's Meeting, & were requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

John Griscom,
Arnold Congdon,
George Howland,
Nathan Pope,
& William Bassett

being proposed by the Committee named yesterday, as members of the Meeting for Sufferings, in addition to the Friends now constituting that Meeting, were appointed accordingly.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

1831.

[illegible] Meeting [illegible]

Friends again assembled, according to adjournment.

The following Summary was read, and adopted, as embracing the substance of the Answers to the Queries, viz.

With exceptions that have occurred in two small Meetings, all our Meetings for worship and discipline have been attended. Meetings on first days by most of our members; yet much neglect is apparent in some in the due discharge of this religious duty, and particularly as it respects the attendance of those both in the middle of the week. The hours is mostly observed. A few instances of sleeping are noticed in each account. With this exception, mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour.

Love and unity are in a good degree maintained, and detraction mostly guarded against. Care is taken to end differences.

Most Friends are concerned to bring up those under their care in plainness, and to be exemplary themselves; yet all are not sufficiently careful herein. A fear is expressed that pernicious books are not enough guarded against. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends' families.

Friends are generally careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors; yet it is noticed in most of the accounts, that in a few instances they have not been confined to medicinal purposes; and a few instances of the unnecessary frequenting of places of public resort, and in one case of want of moderation on the occasions referred to in the 4th Query, are also referred to. In which cases, care appears to have been extended.

The circumstances of the poor are attended to, and it appears that their Children partake of learning. In a few instances children have been placed from under the care of Friends — some of which have occurred in cases where the parents or guardians were not in membership.

Care appears to be taken in most Friends to let all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline; yet some are deficient herein.

A few exceptions have occurred in a faithful maintenance of our testimonies embraced in the 7th Query; in regard to which, care appears to have been extended. These deviations appear to have been mostly of a military nature.

Most Friends appear to be careful as respects the several particulars of the 8th Query; yet some instances of deficiency have occurred in the timely inspection of affairs, and of failure in the payment of just debts; on which account some care has been extended.

Our records appear to be generally well attended to. Some instances of removal without certificate have occurred; which are mostly under care.

Care is taken to deal with offenders, as queried, and to place judgment when necessary, according to Discipline. Yet a fear is expressed in some of the Answers, that timely dealing is not in some instances sufficiently attended to.

The Committee on the subject of Education, introduced the following minutes of advice to subordinate Meetings; which being deliberately considered, were adopted, the Women's Meeting uniting with us therein. And the Clerk was directed to forward a sufficient number of copies thereof, to our several Quarterly Meetings, to supply each Monthly and Particular Meeting; and also the necessary forms for the returns proposed to be made to this Meeting.

The interesting concerns of Education having renewedly claimed the weighty deliberation of the Yearly Meeting, it is the earnest desire of the body that Friends may be diligent and circumspect in their attention to the right ordering of their children, and that they may be concerned to encourage whatever is calculated to promote their religious and moral improvement. And that Friends may be encouraged to unite in the establishment of Preparative or Monthly Meetings Schools, to be taught by members of our Society, in which the children of Friends may be trained up in the language of truth, preserved from improper associations, and moral and religious principles inculcated in conformity to our Christian profession. The daily reading of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament is daily required; and such approved methods of instruction adopted, as will best promote their advancement in useful learning.

That Schools should be visited monthly, or oftener, by Committees of men and women Friends appointed by the Yearly Meeting, before whom the Children should be exercised in the several branches taught in the School. And in those places where it may prove impracticable to establish Preparative or Monthly Meeting Schools, it is desired that Friends may endeavour to institute Family Schools in which the Children of one or more families may daily assemble for literary instruction, by some Teacher appointed, to instruct them. And Friends are very earnestly desired to exercise a becoming diligence in providing Teachers and means of instruction in all their Schools.

To keep alive a concern of such vital importance to our social and religious welfare, and that the Yearly Meeting may be furnished with correct information relative thereto, Preparative Meetings are directed to transmit to their respective Monthly Meetings a statement of the number of Children within their limits, agreeably to the subjoined Queries, and insert the answers in the several columns of the form accompanying; which returns are to be forwarded by the Monthly to the Quarterly Meetings; and a condensed statement of the facts thus collected, to be prepared by the Clerks of the Quarterly Meetings, or by a Committee appointed for that purpose, and forwarded with their next annual accounts, to this Meeting.

Queries to be answered by the Preparative Meetings.

1st What number of Children are there in your Meeting, of an age suitable for instruction, at least, say from four to twenty one years of age? Distinguishing between male and female, and also distinguishing between those under the age of fourteen, & those over that age.

2d What number of Children have been educating at Schools within the year? Distinguishing between male and female; and also between those under fourteen, and those over that age.

3d What number of Schools have been kept under the care of Friends, in your Meeting, during the past year? Distinguishing between Preparative Meeting, Monthly Meeting and Family Schools.

4th What has been the average duration of the Schools under the care of Friends, within the year?

5th What number of Teachers have been employed in those Schools within the year? Distinguishing between male and female Teachers.

6th. What number of Children are there in your Meeting who have attended District or mixed Schools? Distinguishing between male and female, and also between those under the age of fourteen and those over that age.

7th. Is there care taken that the Books used in the Schools under the care of Friends, in the several departments taught in the Schools are judiciously selected?

1834. A proposition from the same Committee for an additional Essay on the subject of Education, was referred to our next Yearly Meeting.

A Certificate for our beloved Friend Jonathan Backhouse, directed to the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, Quarterly Meeting of Durham, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, was approved by this and the Women's Meeting, and was directed to be transcribed and signed by the Clerks.

Epistles of Christian to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland and to that of Philadelphia were read and approved, and the Meeting then

Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met.

The reading of copys of communications to the several Yearly Meetings of Friends in this country, was proceeded with; — and being approved, they were directed, with the Epistles read this morning, to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, & forwarded to the Meetings to which they are addressed.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends now with us from abroad, with minutes, respectfully in Epistles proposed.

We unite with the Womens Meeting in approving a Certificate for our beloved friend Hannah Chapman Backhouse directed to the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, Quarterly Meeting of Durham, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, and the Clerk was directed to sign the same on our behalf.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

Having, through the several sittings of this Meeting been favoured in measure to witness the overshadowing of the wing of Divine regard, we desire to commemorate the goodness of our Heavenly Father in thus enabling us to feel that he hath not forgotten us, but still graciously condescends to manifest his mercy towards us, cementing us together in Brotherly Love, and enabling us to transact the weighty affairs of the Church in much condescension & harmony. And with fervent desires that the precious savour of Love with which our Meeting is favoured may be carefully cherished on our return to our several homes, and under a precious feeling of solemnity, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island, at the usual time, next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

To the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, the Quarterly Meeting of Durham, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London.

Our beloved friend Jonathan Backhouse attended this Meeting in the years 1831 and 1833 and is again acceptably with us at this time. He having also in the love of the Gospel, visited extensively our subordinate Meetings; abbreviated many Meetings among Friends and others, and visited many families within our limits. We feel bound to acknowledge his usefulness and devotion to the service of his Divine Master;— sound in doctrine,— exemplary in deportment, kind and affectionate in manner, and animated with a fervent zeal for the welfare of others: his religious services have been to our edification and comfort. And it now appearing that he is about to leave this for his native land,— it is our desire that he may continue to witness the blessing of preservation, and be favoured to return to his family and friends, with that peace which is the sure reward of yielding obedience to the requisitions of duty.

Signed in behalf and on behalf of our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island from the 15th to the 20th inclusive, of the sixth month, 1834. By

Abraham Shearman jr.
Hannah Gould, Jrs. } Clerks

To the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, the Quarterly Meeting of Durham, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers & Elders held in London.

Our beloved friend Hannah Chapman Backhouse, having attended our Yearly Meeting in the years 1831, '33 & '34, with certificates of unity and concurrance from your several Meetings; and being again acceptably with us at this time, has informed this Meeting, that she has a prospect of returning from her religious labours in this land.

We feel it right to certify on her behalf, that her Gospel labours and religious services, not only in our various meetings for worship and discipline, but also amongst those not of our society, and in the families of Friends, have been strengthening to the living exercised, encouraging to the weak, and consolatory to the afflicted mourners among us: being sound in doctrine, evidently endeavouring to divide the word aright; and her conversation and demeanour becoming the character of a Minister of the Gospel of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ. We feel unity and sympathy with her, and reciprocate a desire, consistent with the Divine will, that when her services are accomplished here she may be favoured to return in safety to her family & friends, with the reward of peace.

Signed by direction and on behalf of our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island from the 15th to the 20th inclusive, of the 6th month, 1834. By

Abraham Shearman, Jr.
Hannah Gould, Jr. } Clerks

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Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held [illegible]
from the 15th to the 20th, inclusive, of the sixth month, 1834,
to other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

Our Epistle of last year, addressed to this Meeting, to you like with the general Epistle of the same date have been read in the our annual Assemblies awakening the feelings of renewed Christian fellowship with the brethren in your varied and scattered situations in the hope that we may so live as to become more and more, each others joy in the Lord.

Our Meeting this year has been large, and its deliberations have been favoured with a good measure of that harmony and unity which must ever characterise the movements of the body, whose members are living branches of the Vine, which is Christ Jesus our Lord. It has been much the concern of this Meeting, that the members of our religious Society, as professors of the Christian name, may know in whom they believe; may know the seat of their mind to be grounded upon that rock which Israel, and which rock is Christ. To have our faith and our affections truly centered on Him who declared, every man that hath heard and hath learned of the Father cometh unto me; and that he that believeth on me hath everlasting life. This we believe is a primary and an essential step in the way to the true enjoyment of that bread that cometh down from Heaven, that a man may eat thereof and not die. I am, said our blessed Lord, the living bread which came down from Heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. Earnestly indeed do we desire that the deep convictions and sore trials which have come upon our Society in various parts of this land, for want of the living and abiding faith, may prove as a warning to us all, that we guard well the avenues to our minds, and keep steadfast in the foundation which is laid in Zion, and built upon the true corner Stone.

The subject of Education had in a special manner claimed the attention of this Meeting. The constant and vigilant care which is requisite to guard our children from the dangers to which they are exposed through the influence of wrong associations, and the necessity of instilling into their minds, at an age when most susceptible of tender and durable impressions, a knowledge of the relations in which we stand to an Almighty Creator & Preserver, and of our hopes of salvation thro' the merits of a Holy Redeemer who died, that yet liveth to make intercession for us, have been forcibly impressed upon the Meeting. The value also of such a faithful cultivation of their minds through the medium of useful learning as will, with the Divine blessing, enlarge their qualifications as members of civil and religious Society, has been feelingly adverted to; and some additional queries calling for information on the subject of Schools & Education, have been directed to our subordinate Meetings.

The subject of Slavery, which has so deeply interested the members of our Society in your land, in relation to the Government both of their own and of this country, continues to present itself before us, we trust, in all the magnitude of its mighty and complicated evils. We do greatly rejoice in the prospect of its entire abolition throughout the British Colonies; and we cherish the hope that this event, in the overruling dispensations of a gracious Providence, may be hastened to its accomplishment within our borders. While we desire to do all in our power to effect the speedy termination of so much suffering & oppression, we perceive the necessity, on account of the wide difference in the situation of our respective Governments, of acting with prudence, lest the work may in some degree be marred, and the amount of human suffering be thereby increased. We rejoice however in the persuasion, that the period is advancing in which the termination of Slavery will be proclaimed by all our State Legislatures, as it has been by those in the Northern and Middle States.

In acknowledging our obligations to the Father of all our mercies, for permitting us in much brotherly affection to conclude the business of this Yearly Meeting, we conclude, With the salutation of love,

Your friends and brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman Jr. Clerk.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been read in our Meeting, and with similar testimonials of brotherly regard received from other Yearly Meetings, has afresh made us to feel the beauty and value of that love which is the distinguishing mark of the disciples of Christ, — for by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one unto another.

In the members of our religious Society, dwelling as they do in different nations, which according to the policies and maxims of this world are separated by a diversity of interests often clashing, and sometimes producing bitterness, wars, painful collisions and strife, are called upon, as they hold dear the precious views they have espoused, so to live near to the blessed Truth as that Then may graciously witness preservation from all participation in these commotions or in the spirit from which they flow; that by this means, Dear Friends, wherever we dwell, the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord may cement us in one brotherhood of love, and make us to feel that as his disciples we are one family, bound together by the strong ties of Christian fellowship, and united to one great and gracious Head, and one unto another in Him.

In transacting the weighty concerns of Truth as they more claimed our attention at this time, we have had again to witness the ancient arm of Divine Goodness to be stretched out towards us, and are thankful in believing that many of our dear younger brethren have been thereby enabled to feel their strength renewed in the God of their lives, and to covenant afresh with Him, that

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more heartily to espouse this cause. — How this class of our Society our Lord is raising up to himself, that he may yet more and more draw us to center in the vision of that heavenly Father, and in a view of his unmerited mercy to them, to us all, in sending his Son into the world to suffer and to die for us, laying down his most precious life freely, that we might live. Their hearts may be warmed & renewed with gratitude to him, and that they may count nothing too dear or precious to be freely surrendered at his requiring. — A humble submission of their wills thus to the Divine will must, we believe, lead them as members of our religious Society into a conformity to those heavenly testimonies, which in the designs of a gracious Providence our worthy predecessors were called upon to bear, and for the support of which in his world we must look, unless the Divine blessing to this class of our Society to perpetuate.

The religious and guarded education of our youth is such a subject upon which our minds have very deeply exercised at this time, and in view of its great importance to the future welfare of the body, we have been concerned to stir up the minds of Friends in our several Quarterly Meetings, to renewed exertions, for the establishment of such a system of schools as shall enable our Children to obtain a consistent education, for some time examining the obstructions to which they now are in many places exposed, in mixed schools.

We offer you the salutation of our love, and remain,

Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting by

Graham Bowman. Jr. Clk

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

In the love of the Gospel we salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the 4th mo. last.

Among the subjects which have interested us at this time, a view of the religious and moral situation of our youth. We have considered it important, that the tender minds of children may be early instructed in the simple truths of Christianity; that God is their heavenly Father, to whom they are accountable for their thoughts and actions, and unto whom they are indebted for their lives and all their blessings, and to whom they should reverently draw with feelings of filial regard: — that Jesus Christ is their Lord and Saviour, who came, suffered and died for them, and had risen again for their justification, and ever liveth, their everlasting Friend and Advocate with the Father.

Much depends upon the early bias of children's minds; and these simple though important truths being early inculcated, they will be prepared as the blessed Spirit of Truth shall manifest himself to their tender understandings, to receive with meekness the engrafted word, and like the fair ground as he dealt it forth and watered and nourished there: they will bring forth fruit, some thirty, some sixty and some an hundred fold. — And we have earnestly desired that parents and those who have the care of children may be

a submission of their hearts to the teachings of heavenly wisdom, becoming qualified to instruct the tender minds committed to their care in the doctrines and principles of the religion we profess, and by the diligence of their example, say to those over whom they are placed, come follow us as we follow Christ.

Our Meeting at this time has been large and solemnly owned as we trust by the Master of assemblies; and although we have had to deplore the continued existence among us of deficiencies in the maintenance of many of our Testimonies, yet we are encouraged in the belief that it is the blessed will of our heavenly Father, that our religious Society should yet more conspicuously shine as the advocates of the blessed simple truths of Christianity as clearly revealed in the Holy Scriptures; and that we should yet more clearly & fully bear testimony to the truths of redemption in Jesus Christ, through his blood shed for us without the gates of Jerusalem, where through the eternal Spirit he offered himself up unto God as a sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world, & having risen again for our justification, now sitteth at the right hand of God, our Mediator and Advocate with the Father; having by his Holy Spirit appeared a second time without sin unto salvation.

It was through the belief of these all important truths as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and as they were instrumental in conviction upon the minds of our early friends, that they were enabled, in the conspicuous manner they did, to stand as advocates for the pure religion of Jesus Christ, the blessed revelation of God to man as the only means of leading him from a state of alienation from God, in which we are as the sons of Adam, back into the blessed fold of rest, where living redeemed and purified, we experience acceptance with Him.

The subject of conference by Committees of the different Yearly Meetings, upon several interesting and important topics connected with the welfare of our religious Society, to which in brotherly love we invited your attention in our Epistle of last year, and which in the same feeling of brotherly regard we renew again, being to your notice, having been brought before us by the reading of the report of our Committee appointed to meet with similar Committees of these Yearly Meetings, has again claimed our serious consideration at this time; and although way has not opened for immediate action, and we have therefore referred the subject to our next Yearly Meeting, we still feel very desirous that the minds of Friends in all the Yearly Meetings in this country may be kept alive to the concern, that if the way should hereafter appear to act therein, we may be favoured unitedly to proceed in the furtherance of an object, which still appears to us connected with the best interests of the Society and the cause of the ever blessed Truth.

With the salutation of love we are,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed, by direction, and on behalf, of the Meeting aforesaid,

by Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clerk.

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1834.

To New York.

Dear Friends

In again assembling for the important purpose of transacting the interesting concerns of Society, we have thankfully and reverently to acknowledge the condescending goodness of our Heavenly Father who has been graciously pleased to favour us with a consoling sense of his presence and with a renewed evidence that his love is still through unmerited mercy extended over us. Our distant Brethren have again at this time been gratifyingly brought to our remembrance and acceptable testimonials of their regard are presented to us in the late communication including one from your last Yearly Meeting.

Let us dear Friends endeavour to cherish those precious feelings of love towards each other the possession of which is declared by our blessed Lord to be the badge of true discipleship — "Love kindly as brethren" "affectioned one towards another," let us "prefer one another in love." By this we come to be our experience, we shall be favoured to cooperate harmoniously together in the promotion of the cause of Truth and righteousness in the earth, and to be instrumental in building one another up in the most holy Faith.

We believe it is the design of infinite Wisdom, that our Society should hold a conspicuous rank in exalting the standard of truth among the nations. May we not by the manifestation of disobedience, in any degree frustrate his gracious purposes concerning us. But bear in mind that each member has an individual work to perform, however humble his station of action may be. Let us all attend to the pointings of unerring wisdom, and in unison faithfully fulfill our duties in righteousness. Our minds will then be drawn from an inordinate pursuit of the things of time, and from an assimilation with the spirit and customs of this world. Thus through faith in the efficacy of the one great offering which our Holy Redeemer made of himself without the gates of Jerusalem; being brought into obedience to the cross of Christ and purified by the operation of his Spirit in our hearts, may we, at even time, be we shall be no more, without an admission into the kingdom of everlasting rest & peace.

Our Boarding School continues to be an object of deep interest to us with us, and in our encouraged in believing that it has exerted a beneficial influence. The reading of the report of the Committee charged with the superintendence of this Institution, has afresh introduced us into a lively exercise that its usefulness may yet be increased; that those entrusted with the immediate care of the pupils may seek to be rightly qualified to discharge the duties of their stations with faithfulness; that they may not only instruct them in their literary pursuits, but that, by a consistent example, and suitable counsel and advice, they may endeavour to train them up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

At our last Yearly Meeting a concern was revived for the more guarded watch and religious education of our youth, and advices were transmitted to our subordinate Meetings recommending the establishment of Schools by our Monthly Meetings. The subject has been again revived at this time with increased interest, & measures have been taken, further to promote the objects of this concern, feeling it to be intimately connected with the best interests of our Society.

[illegible] a power from the one Head, to the one Church, and to keep us steadily in the mind, endeavours to that humility and meekness which become the followers of the Lamb. That we may not be unwilling that we are the subjects of the Power of Grace whose kingdom is not of this world, but consisteth in righteousness and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

This Meeting has been well attended, and we have been enabled to discuss of the various concerns which have engaged our attention in much harmony and unanimity. A large number of our young Friends are in attendance, and an encouraging evidence has been, that there are those among them who are under the preparing hand of the Lord, and that, as they abide in faithfulness, they will be raised up from among them, "Judges as at the first, and counsellors as at the beginning."

The Report of our Committee appointed last year to confer with similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings on subjects of general welfare, has been read in this Meeting, and, being impressed with a sense of the importance of the concern, we have concluded to refer it for further consideration next year.

With the salutation of love, and with desires that you, ourselves may be "stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord" we bid you affectionate farewell, and are

Your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

by Abraham Sharpless, Jr. Clk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends.

We have been at this time made sensible of the continued mercy and goodness of the Great Head of the Church in permitting us again to assemble together, and have felt a renewed evidence that it is through Divine assistance alone that we can be properly qualified to transact the important concerns of Society.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 10th month last has been read at this time together with Epistolary communications from Yearly Meetings; and it is animating to perceive that we are thus remembered by our Friends, and that they can salute us as brethren of the same household of Faith.

In considering the state of Society we have been led into a lively exercise for the removal of those deficiencies which exist in the maintenance of our Christian testimonies, and we are encouraged in believing that there are those among us who are sincerely engaged in the work of our ancient principles, and who are desirous above all other things for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness.

May we all, dear Friends, be stimulated to dedicate ourselves more fully to the cause of our Redeemer; that so by a greater dedication of our own wills and inclinations, we may be found during the continuance of the day, and waiting in that low humility which becometh the humble followers of the Lamb.

May we all be concerned to enter into self-examination; and see how far we are living consistent with the high profession we make. For if we do become truly individually engaged, we believe we should be

1834. humbled under a sense of our manifold weaknesses and short comings, and should realize the necessity of a daily dependence upon our Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord for true wisdom & strength whereby we may be enabled to maintain more faithfully all our precious testimonies.

Our Meeting has at this time been large, and we have been favoured with the company of several dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings. We have also had the company of many of our beloved youth, some of whom appear to be taking an increasing interest in the affairs of the Church.

May this class of our society wherever they may be situated, be encouraged to a prayerful dedication of heart to the cause of truth; that as they grow in years they may grow in grace, and in soundness of faith; and thus become firmly settled and established in our Christian principles.

Our Boarding School Committee have presented a satisfactory Report, and we think there is good ground for believing that this institution is increasing in usefulness.

The subject of a more guarded, literary and religious education of our youth has claimed our serious attention, and has resulted in the conclusion to again recommend to our subordinate Meetings that their endeavours as much as practicable, to aid and assist Friends in the establishment of select and family Schools.

The report of the Committee which met in conference last Summer in your city has been read to our satisfaction and after a season of solid deliberation thereon, it was concluded to refer the subject to our next Yearly Meeting for further consideration.

With the salutation of love we remain Your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman Jun. Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Through the continued mercy of Divine Goodness we are permitted again to assemble and hold our annual Meeting, which has been large; many of our youth are in attendance, their solid deportment and attention encourage the hope that they are yielding obedience to the call and monitions of the Spirit of the Lord in their hearts, and afford a gratifying prospect of a succession of those who are willing to be accounted fools for Christ's sake. We desire that they may continue to stand upon their watch, and be increasingly attentive to their blessed Redeemer who mercifully invites all to come, in the language, 'Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest to your souls.' — How great the blessing of an early submission to Him, who is the source of wisdom, of instruction, and of all our sure mercies.

While we feel this interest for those who are with us, it extends in love to you, and especially to this class. We desire, dear young Friends, your encouragement in devoting your time and talents to the cause of Truth, in the fear of the Lord, and that all the testimonies which are given us to bear, may be sustained. — The highly important one of spiritual worship, let us be engaged to maintain it, knowing our bodies a living sacrifice holy & acceptable

[illegible] in true humility of mind, may we not reverently believe that he will pour both temporal and spiritual blessings upon us.

The oppressed condition of the sons of Africa and their descendants have been brought to us in connection with feelings of commiseration; and with desires that we in this day, when public opinion is so much prevailing in favour of this manifestation, may be vigilant in our endeavours to promote the righteous cause: hoping that the time may not be far distant when it may be said, as to Babylon's iniquitous system, that the voice of the oppressor had ceased in our land; and the ground of the oppressed are no longer heard.

We have had the company of our friends Jonathan and Hannah C. Backhouse from England, with a number of others of our brethren and sisters from various Yearly Meetings on the Continent.

The object of the Committee appointed to meet similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings in conference on subjects interesting to the welfare of the Society, has been acceptable to us; and the subject is continued to next year for further consideration.

The subject of education has very much interested us during this Yearly Meeting; and the School of our Committee charged with the superintendance of our Boarding School has given us encouragement to believe in its increasing usefulness.

Your Epistle of the present year has not come to hand.

With the salutation of love, we remain.

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

by Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk

To North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Having been favoured to meet again in this capacity, your acceptable Epistle of the 9th month last with others from our distant brethren have been received and read with much satisfaction.

And we unite with you in the belief that a correspondence of this kind has a tendency to promote harmony and strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship between us.

The number of Friends in attendance at this time, it is thought is larger than usual, particularly from the more distant parts of the Meeting. Although it has been a season of much exercise on account of the insurrections which are manifest from the reports received from the Quarterly Meetings, yet we trust we have partaken of consolation also, under a sense of the continued mercies of our Heavenly Father in Christ Jesus our Lord.

It is gratifying to notice that the way appears to be open for the establishment of a Yearly Meeting Boarding School, for the education of your children and youth. It is recommended in the case of Friends of suitable qualifications, not only in respect to literary acquirements but also of religious attainment, engaged for the promotion of piety and virtue; in connection with useful knowledge, we think it may prove a seminary an extensive influence of good.

[illegible] to this [illegible] Yearly Meeting, [illegible] who feel desirous that more care should be taken in the instruction of the children [illegible] than we are apprehensive has hitherto generally been the case. In addition to the practice of daily reading in a reverent manner when [illegible] sections thereof, and the assembling the children together in Schools in neighbourhoods where friends reside near to each other, it has been thought that the afternoon of the first days of the week may be very profitably devoted to the purpose by families remotely situated, with the use of such publications as have been carefully prepared to aid in instruction, and that meetings [illegible] would from it, both to parents and children.

The report of the Committee of Correspondence with Baltimore Yearly Meeting, was read and accepted. The Committee of this Meeting, [illegible] from further service, and the further consideration of the subject referred to our next Meeting.

We feel sympathy with you in the difficulties under which you labour in relation to the trouble of colour under your care, and we doubt not your endeavours that your movements respecting them may continue to be under the influence of that wisdom which is profitable to direct.

With desires that we and our dear brethren may increase in our dedication to the love and service of Him who hath done and is doing so much for us, we remain Your friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

by Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Under a humbling and grateful sense of our obligations to the Great Head of the Church, who has condescended to permit us again to meet in a Yearly Meeting capacity, we are induced at this time to address you, feeling an ardent desire that, notwithstanding the distance which separates us, our hearts may still be united in the blessed fellowship of the Gospel, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of ninth month last, which together with the extracts accompanying it, have been read to our satisfaction and comfort. We heartily unite with you in a feeling of sympathy towards the aboriginal inhabitants of our country, who have been induced to leave their native soil, and seek new homes beyond the Mississippi: and we are gratified to learn by the reports of the Committees on Indian concerns, that they are satisfied with their present residence, and are disposed to receive instruction and to make improvements. To the labours of those who have been or may be concerned in the arduous undertaking of visiting, and spreading information among them, we most sincerely desire success, and trust the individuals thus engaged may experience the enjoyment of that peace which is the reward of well-doing.

Our present annual assembly, which is unusually large, has we trust been owned by our heavenly Father, and a renewed

some of the concerned favours of Heaven in which presence there is life & peace, & we are encouraged to say, whereby we have been enabled to transact the weighty affairs that have come before us, in much harmony & brotherly love.

The annual report of the Boarding School Committee was presented and read to satisfaction; and the minds of Friends introduced into a lively concern for the religious welfare of our youth, and an increased attention to their more guarded education.

The Committee appointed last year to meet at Baltimore, and confer with similar Committee from the Yearly Meetings, produced a satisfactory report, and the subject is released to another year for further consideration.

We have had the acceptable company of Jonathan & Hannah C. Backhouse, from England, also of a number of Friends from the Yearly Meetings; and feelings of gratitude have pervaded our hearts, that the Lord still continues to send his faithful labourers among us.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid,

By Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Assembled again in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, we acknowledge amongst other like favours, the receipt of your acceptable & lively of the tenth month last.

The Meeting at that time had been large, and during its several sittings we have been favoured, we trust, with a portion of that Spirit in which Christ gathered us to be a people. Having in view the answers to the Queries on the state of Society we find much to lament, of deficiency, and much of backwardness, we have yet warrantable ground to believe, that the Lord is near to many to all that call upon him. And under the influence we trust of his blessed Spirit, we have felt awakened to a concern for the increasing prosperity of the cause of Truth, which has not been confined to the limits of our own Yearly Meeting; but which in the exercises of its own nation we have felt to embrace you, dear Friends, as a part of the one body, with the Christian salutation of "Peace be with you and brethren from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ." It is under a deep sense of the responsibility attached to us from the relation that we hold to the world, and to other professors of the Christian name, that we are led earnestly to desire that blessings both for ourselves and for our Friends. As professors of the Christian name, may a fruitful concern rest upon us to see that our light is not hid or obscured, but that the distinctive doctrines, the distinguishing testimonies & precious privileges given us to bear, be faithfully maintained by all the members of the church. Our profession renders us conspicuous in the eyes of the world. let us therefore be increasingly engaged to stand fast, and as a "building of God" "made up of lively stones." A deep solicitude has been felt, that the dear bought testimonies of this Society, might none of them be let fall before the world; and to this end, our true safety lies not in ourselves, but in a humble dependence on Him, who is "able to keep us from falling." By a humble, upright walking, we may become blest in the hands of the Lord in building one another up.

1834. ups in that most holy Faith; whilst on the other hand, a strict observance on our part will not only weaken our own hands, but it will ultimately mar the beauty and fit proportions of the spiritual house. It appears to us of importance that a due sense of our position in the view of the world, should be continually borne in mind. If we, then, in regard to attendance of meetings — in dress and language — for fit us for religious consistency, much have we to fear that we shall incur the condemnation of a breach of this important injunction, so that our light, shine before men that they seeing our good works may glorify our Father who is in heaven.

It is gratifying to us to learn that the guarded education of the youth of our Society is claiming your attention. The condition of this interesting class of Society is a subject that lies near our hearts. — When we reflect, that on them rest many of our hopes; that from among them we are to expect the future standard bearers in the Church, we feel the great importance of training them up in the fear of the Lord. We must know it is required to guard them against attendant evils. We are encouraged to believe that Divine Goodness is working on many of their tender minds, and we are desirous to provide for them the means of a more guarded education in schools of Friends, free from the contamination of the world. [illegible] in the expense is important; and it is hoped that no objection of a pecuniary kind will be allowed to weigh against it.

The report of the Committee of General Conference has been received, and the consideration of the subject referred to the next year.

With the salutation of love we remain,

Your friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

by Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clerk.

Information concerning Correspondents, noticed in Epistles rec.d in 1834

New York Yearly Meeting — "Joseph Tabor, Onondaga County, N.Y. is appointed Correspondent for Bethesda Mo. Meeting in Miami Quarterly Mg. in place of Edward Comstock and Paul Swarthout, Peru, Clinton County, N.Y. is appointed Correspondent for Peru Mo. Mg. in Peru Preparative Quarterly Meeting in place of David Harkness.

Indiana Yearly Meeting — Aaron Hoyle, of Salem, Ia. is appointed Correspondent for Milford Mo. Mg. a branch of Whitewater Quarter, in the place of Elijah Cotton, removed. — Eli Overman, of Marion, Grant Co. Indiana is appointed Correspondent for Mississinawa Mo. Mg. within the limits of New Garden Q.M. Henry B. Hill, of Ripley, Rush Co. Indiana, is appointed Correspondent for Duck Creek Mo. Mg. in the limits of Whitewater Quarter, in the place of George Evans, who by the division of that Monthly Meeting, has become a member of Spiceland Mo. Mg. — for which I address to George Evans, as before.

1833.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held in Rhode Island, commencing with Twelve Sitting for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth, on First Day the 12th and at Newport for Discipline, on

Second day, the 13th of 6th month 1833.

Accounts being received from our several Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are.

For Rhode Island, Thomas Anthony, Andrew Nichols, Thomas Rowland, Jonathan Lawton, David Buffum, Benjamin Buffington, Josiah F. Mitchell, William Jenkins, Arnold Congdon.

For Nine, Jonathan Nichols, Moses H. Brode, Robert Brown, John Cox, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce. For Sandwich, Daniel Tobey, Silas Shaw, Isaac Lord, Isaac A. Gifford, John L. Lang, Calvin Hapgood, Samuel Powell. For Falmouth, William C. Jr. William Swinton, Samuel Jones, John Winslow, Benjamin Hedge, Moses Parmenter, Jonathan Dennis jun. Moses Aldrich, Thomas Fry, John Milton Earl. For Dartmouth, John Howland, Abijah Davis, William Parr, Eli Jones, Elijah Winslow, Thomas Rose, John D. Lang, Joshua Tinkler, John Brown, John Hunter. When names being called, they were all present except one from Dartmouth for whom a satisfactory reason was given:

Having at this time the acceptable company of our esteemed friends Joshua Lynch, of Upper Springfield Monthly Meeting, and Elisha Bates of West Grove Monthly Meeting in the State of Ohio; Thomas Kite, of the Monthly Meeting of Wilmington, Robert Comfort and Abel Thatcher, of Fairfax Monthly Meeting, State of Pennsylvania, satisfactory evidences of the unity of their friends with their ministry and sound religious engagements were read? We have also the acceptable company of our friends James Bolton, companion to Joshua Lynch; Jesse Kersey, companion to Elisha Bates; Lilly Kelley, companion to Robert Comfort and Richard Hall, companion to Abel Thatcher, who have produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their friends with these engagements.

The London General Epistle of last year, with an acceptable Epistle from Friends of that Yearly Meeting directed to this, of the same date; and acceptable Epistles from the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, with the exception of Baltimore, were received and read. An Epistle from Friends of Virginia, of 1832, not received in season to be laid before our last Yearly Meeting, was also read?

Which Epistles were committed to the consideration of Rowland Thomas, William Jenkins, John Wilbur, John Hunter, Thomas Rowland, William Russell, Stephen A. Chase, Arnold Congdon, John Winslow of Falmouth, Thomas Anthony, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Fry of Dartmouth, John L. Lang, Benjamin Hedge, Thomas Jones, Daniel Tobey, Moses H. Brode, Joseph Davis and George W. Read — who were requested, as way may open for it, to prepare essays of communications to the

1835 ... Samuel Jones. Meetings with which we have minutes correspondent, and produce them at a future sitting or sittings.

Information is received from all the Quarterly Meetings that they have either paid or directed the payment of their respective proportions of Stock to our Treasurer.

Isaac Congdon, William Bassett, George Howland, Reuben Macy, Isaac Hicks, Abijah Newhall, & John Brown are appointed a Committee to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and also to propose a Treasurer; — and report at a future sitting.

We are informed, that Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with their Monthly Meeting in approving the public ministry of Abijah Johnson; with Salem Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Ezekiel Nichols, and with Smithfield in the appointment of Robert Brown to the Station of Elders. That Falmouth Quarterly Meeting has united with Durham Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Cyrus Jones to the Station of an Elder; and with the same M.o Meeting in dismissing Edward Jones from that Station. That Middletown Quarterly Meeting has united with China M.o Mtg. in approving the public Ministry of Comfort Johnson, and in the appointment of Abner Johnson to the Station of an Elder. — With Sidney Monthly Meeting in approving the public ministry of Samuel Taylor jun.r and with Middletown M.o Meeting in displacing Thomas Pinkham from the meeting of Ministers and Elders. — And that Dover Quarterly Meeting has united with Dover M.o Mtg. in approving the public ministry of Olney Thompson.

Answers to the Queries on the subject of Education, directed last year to be transmitted to the Preparative Meetings, were received in a condenced form, from our several Quarterly Meetings with the exception that no returns are given for one M.o Meeting within the limits of Falmouth Quarter.

John Griscom, William Bassett, Thomas Fry, of Bolton, Stephen A. Chase, and John M. Earl were appointed a Committee to prepare a digest of the information contained in these returns, and lay before this Meeting at another sitting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Met pursuant to adjournment.

Thomas Howland, on behalf of the Representatives, informed the Meeting, that they had agreed to propose Abraham Shearman, Jun.r for Clerk, and Stephen A. Chase, for Assistant Clerk; which being considered, was united with, and they were appointed to those services for the year ensuing.

Having at this Meeting, the acceptable company of our esteemed friend Mutlah Macy, of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, State of Vermont, certificates of the concurrence of her friends with her present religious engagements, were read at this sitting.

An acceptable Epistle from Friends of the Yearly Meeting of Ireland was read, and referred to the Committee of Correspondence appointed this morning; to which Committee, Samuel B. Tabey is now added.

Average No of Scholars.

1826	110	
1827	110	
1828	121	
1829	135	
1830	127	
1831	128	
1832	163	
1833	172	5)774
1834	168	155
1835	143	
	1377	

Average of last ten years — 138 nearly
" last five " — 155 nearly

... Committee ... Report ... Committee ... read
received and read, and being satisfactory to the Meeting; copies thereof
were directed to be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly
Meetings.

The Report.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Boarding School Committee report, That they have endeavoured for the last year to discharge the duties committed to them in attending to the various concerns of the Institution, which have been conducted to a good degree of satisfaction. In doing this they have not been unmindful of the objects Friends have had in view in the establishment of the School and of the wishes of its benevolent donors.

Meetings have been regularly kept up, and harmony has been preserved. The average number of Scholars has been one hundred and forty three, eleven of whom have been profited in the department for Languages, &c.

Our Friends Seth and Mary Davis, of Dartmouth, have been engaged as Superintendents of the School, to supply the place of our friends Enoch & Lydia Mead, who have acceptably served us in that capacity for the past eleven years, and now wish to be released. Our friend John Griscom has continued his services in the Institution during the past year, but his engagement will terminate the first of Seventh month next. Isaac Mathaway is employed as a book keeper, and care-taker of the Boys, out of School hours; and Christina Tate has charge of the sewing School, and is care-taker of the Girls, out of School hours. Perry Ewer, Jonathan Slocum, George W. Mead, and Louis Cook, are engaged as Teachers in the Boys School, and Mary Ann Parker, Martha Parker & Emeline Mason in the Girls. Samuel J. Gummere having left the Institution, the instruction in the Languages will be continued under the care of George W. Mead; and it is proposed for the future, instead of the terms heretofore established, that five dollars per quarter be charged for the study of the Languages, in addition to the ordinary price for Scholars in the other branches of study.

The accounts of the Treasurer and Superintendent have been examined and settled, from which it appears, that the receipts of the School from the Funds and the amount paid for Scholars, have about met the expenses, and the Committee consequently propose, that the terms for board tuition, &c. be continued the same as last year; and that the privilege of sending one child six months free of expense, be continued to each Monthly Meeting. Friends are requested not to neglect the attendance quarterly of the Scholars, but the expense of such quarters to be paid in advance, inasmuch as inconvenience and loss have resulted from the neglect of this rule.

The Committee deem it proper again to recommend to Friends, that in sending their children to the School, the terms proposed three years ago, may be observed, as far as practicable, viz. at the time of our Yearly Meeting, and in the first week of the 2d, 5th, 8th and 11th months.

In reviewing the past year, in relation to this Institution, we feel that we have cause gratefully to acknowledge the preservation extended to us, under which the School has continued to be conducted in trust, to the benefit of many of the youth of our Society.

By direction and on behalf of the Committee,

Yearly Meeting Boarding School, 5th mo. 8th. 1835.

Arnold Cogdon, Clerk.

[illegible] Harvey Chase, Jonathan Dennis, William Jenkins, Stephen Gould, David Buffum, Moses Allen, Lemuel Hoyt, Josiah Forman Jun.r, Nicholas Rob.t Brown, John Ivory, Francis Kelly, John A. Lewis, Cornelius Wing, Prince Gardner, Jun.r Reuben, Jun.r Alexander, James Turner, William Cobb, Nathan Pope, Samuel Jones, William Pennington, Walter Allen, Peter B. Aldrich, Moses Forman, John M Carl, Thomas Fry of Boston, Daniel Tabor, Jn.o Winslow, Elijah Lawton, Josiah Jones, Moses Hartwell, Allen Wing, Jn.o Meader, John Brown, Joshua Meader, and John D. Long — were appointed a Committee to consider of, and produce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may conceive suitable to constitute a Committee for the government and superintendance of the School for the year ensuing.

Adjourned to the 3.d hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third day afternoon, the 16.th.

Friends again met, pursuant to our adjournment.

The State of Society was brought under consideration, by reading the Queries and the Answers to them, received from our several Quarterly Meetings, which were gone through with — And the substance of which is entered on the following Summary:

1. [illegible] with the exception, that in two of the accounts a few omissions are noticed; from causes assigned. These duties are attended by most of our members; yet a neglect of this important duty is still apparent, more particularly in the attendance of mens & womens and boys for discipline; Yet we are encouraged to believe that there is no increase of deficiency in this respect. Some instances of Slighting are still noticed. Friends are generally preserved from other unbecoming behaviour.

2. Love and unity are generally maintained, and detraction guarded against; yet not without some exceptions. Care is taken to end differences.

3. Most Friends appear careful to bring up those under their direction in Learning, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books and from corrupting conversation; and are exemplary therein themselves; yet there is a want of due care in some instances, and many deviations in regard to dress and ornaments are still manifest; and more care appears to be wanting with respect to reading improper books. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends families.

4. Friends are, with a few exceptions noticed in most of the answers, careful to abstain from the use of spirituous liquors, and from the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and other public houses. Moderation and temperance are generally maintained on the occasions referred to.

5. The circumstances of the poor are attended to, and their children partake of Learning. A few instances of placing Children from among Friends are noticed in most of the accounts received.

6. Concern appears to be prevalent with most Friends, that proceedings with respect to marriage may be conformable to discipline. Yet some instances of deviation have occurred.

7. Our testimonies embraced in this Query appear to be faithfully maintained by Friends generally. A few exceptions of a military nature are noticed in three of the answers; and we are also informed of one or two instances of the payment of Friends wages; in which case care has been extended.

8. [illegible] in the [illegible] of January [illegible] to the [illegible] of this Query. Of a few exceptions, which have called for an extension of care, are noticed in two of the answers.

9. Our records appear, in most instances, to be well attended to, yet not without some deficiency in the recording of births and deaths. A few instances of removal without certificate, are under notice.

10. Care is taken to deal with offenders, in good measure as recommended; yet most of the answers express that it has not, in some instances, been so timely attended to as would have been best. Judgment has been placed according to Discipline.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth-day, morning, the 17th.

Friends again met, agreeable to adjournment.

The Committee which was had under consideration the proposition for the removal of the Yearly Meeting to some more central place, produced the following report:

"To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of the removal of the Yearly Meeting, report, That they have from time to time given attention, during the last year, to the subject of their appointment; and at the several discussions which have taken place, and particularly at the meeting now holden the minds of the Committee have been impressed with a belief that the time is not far distant when it may be best to remove the Yearly Meeting to some more central place; but believing that the time is not yet arrived, we conclude to propose to the Yearly Meeting to continue the subject another year, under the care of a Committee.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6mo. 16, 1835. Thomas Fry, Clerk."

Which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the subject was continued under the care of the same Committee with the exception of our late friends, Cornelius Howland and Josiah Jones, deceased since our last Yearly Meeting; and they were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee appointed on 2d day morning to prepare a digest of the returns received from the several Quarterly Meetings on the subject of Education, presented the following summary view of the information received. Copies of which the Clerk was directed to transmit to our subordinate Meetings. [For Summary see close of this year's minutes.]

And the importance of the guarded religious and Literary Education of our Children & Youth, still continuing to rest with weight upon the minds of Friends; we appoint Thomas Anthony, Newton Lower, John Mendenhall, William Jenkins, Samuel B. Tobey, Wm. S. Rodman, Josiah Jones, Stephen A. Chase, Thomas Howland, Rhine Gardner, John Griscom, Elijah Winslow, Reuben Bracket, Thomas Fry, of Boston, John Winslow, of Portland, Thomas Jones, John D. Lang, John Sawyer, William Reynolds, John M. Earl, John Brown, William Cobb, Jr. Howland, Arnold Congdon, & Moses Starkey, to take the subject, generally under consideration, and report at a future sitting.

The subject of an additional Query on the subject of Education, as referred from our last Yearly Meeting, was committed to the same Friends.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

The Minute of the Meeting for Sufferings for the last year was read, and the attention given to that concern of Friends that was committed upon it being solicited, the Friends now named appointed with the exception of our late Friends Daniel Howland, Caleb Howland, Ebenezer Fry, and Josiah Jones deceased, and John Farnum removed out of the limits of the Yearly Meeting, were continued, to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, or till another appointment; and it was referred to the Committee appointed on 2d day afternoon to nominate a School Committee to bring forward a few additional names, should they, on consideration, deem it advisable.

The situation of the People of colour was for the cause of Friends of North Carolina Yearly Meeting having been brought into view by the perusing of the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings from which it appears that efforts are now making by Friends of that Yearly Meeting to remove those of this description who still remain among them to free States, in which they seek our sympathy and aid. The subject, as first introduced, claimed the serious consideration of the Meeting; and resulted in the appointment of Samuel M. Fobes, David Shove, James Chace, Elijah C. Pratt, Samuel Rowe, Daniel Howe, William C. Fobes, Isaac R. Gifford, William R. Taber, Ebenezer Wing, Samuel Jones, Peter H. Borrett, Elisha Gordon, Thomas Fry, Jonathan Davis Jr. Edward Earle, Daniel Taber, Alden Pope, Elijah Winslow, William Hill, Stephen Nichols, and Levi Sawyer — as a Committee, to call on Friends, and receive from them such sums as they in their freedom may be willing to contribute for the promotion of this object; and report at a future sitting.

The Committee appointed to bring forward the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Committee for the Government and Superintendence of the Boarding School under the care of this Meeting, proposed the appointment of the following Friends, viz.

Moses Brown.
William Hoag
Rowland Green
Nicholas Congdon
Elijah Chace
John Wilbur
William Jenkins
Walter Aiden
Joseph Metcalf
James Tucker
Benja. Freeborn
David Burgess
Francis Dyer
Benjamin Mott
Jno. C. Dennis
John Brown
William Cobb
Thomas Howland
Stephen A. Chace
Rowld. Rathbun
John Osborne

Daniel C. Bacon
Abm. Shearman, Jr.
Thomas Jones
Clark Shove
Thomas Fry of Pelham
Silas Earle
Moses Farnum
Thomas Anthony
W. C. Reynolds
Wm. R. Taber
David Johnson
George Mitchell
George Howland
Abm. Tucker
Stephen Chace
Jona. Nichols
Wm. Mitchell
Stephen Jones 3d
Joseph Davis
Isaac R. Gifford

Edward Wing
Moses Aldrich
Jona. Congdon
Howard Congdon
James M. Fry
Samuel Boyce
John Meader
David Shove
Elijah Pope
Sands Wing
Ebenezer Wing 3d
Wm. S. Robinson
Silas W. Aldrich
Samuel Wing
Stephen Rogers
Ananias Potter
Abijah Johnson
Jona. Macomber
Nathan Reed of Lynn.
Benjamin Fry

William Russell
Joseph Howland
John Riley Jarvis
Moses D. Wade
Joseph Sisson
Josiah Jones
John Howland, Jr.
Peter H.
Allen Wing
Enoch Reed
Daniel Swift
John L. Lang
Silvia H. Mitchell
Robert Brown
John M. Earle
John Winslow of Pittsburgh
Chas. R. Davis
Moses Starkey
Stephen Gould
Abm. Barker of Dartmouth

which being considered, was acceptable to the Meeting, and they were accordingly appointed to this service for the year ensuing; a like number as assistants; to unite with Isaac Wilson and Thomas Mott as may be named for a similar service by the Women's Meeting; and were requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon the 18th.

Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

A Testimony of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Thomas Mott was read, and being approved by this Meeting, was directed to be recorded.

The Committee appointed yesterday on the subject of Education produced the following Report:

"The Committee on Education have taken into consideration the important subject referred to them. And the religious and guarded education of our children and Youth appears to be increasingly claiming the serious concern of Friends. And it is much to be desired that the impressions of our Discipline upon the subject of Education may be revived in Friends' minds, and put in practice wherever it may be practicable.

"The institution of Family Schools is considered by the Committee a very interesting subject, and we desire that Friends may be encouraged to keep alive a concern for their establishment as way may open for it.

We propose the following Queries for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, to be sent down to our subordinate Meetings:

"1. How many Schools are there within your limits, under the care of Friends. Distinguishing between Monthly Meeting, Boarding and Day Schools. And what has been the average duration of these Schools during the year?

"2. How many children of Friends have attended Friends' Schools within the year?

"Monthly Meetings are desired to answer these Queries in season for the Spring Quarterly Meetings, and the Quarterly Meetings are desired to transmit these Answers to our next Yearly Meeting.

The proposed additional permanent Query, referred to our consideration, has been considered, and we are of opinion that it will not now be best to adopt it.

On behalf of the Committee,
Stephen A. Chase,
Mary B. Allen.

Which being read and considered was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies of the same, with the exception of the paragraph relating to a permanent Query, to our several subordinate Meetings, who were requested to give the necessary attention to preparing and forwarding Answers to the last Queries as proposed.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers accounts, consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and to prepare a Treasurer, produced the following Report viz:

"The Committee appointed for the purpose, report. That they have examined the Treasurer's account, and found a balance to the credit of the Yearly Meeting, of Two hundred & thirty three 53/100 dollars. They recommend that fifteen hundred dollars be raised for the use of the Yearly Meeting the ensuing year, and propose David Buffum for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee.

Newport, 6mo 16, 1835. Arnold Congdon.

To the Yearly Meeting."

which was acceptable to the Meeting, — and in conformity therewith, it was concluded to raise fifteen hundred dollars, the sum proposed. — David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing, and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of the above sum, viz. Rhode Island 30 dollars. Salem 12½ Sandwich 30 — Falmouth, 4¾ — Smithfield 12½ Wassalboro' 4. — Dover 6¼. —

The following Report was presented by the Committee on Indian concerns, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee on Indian affairs, report, That a part of their number have made a visit to the Penobscot tribe during the past year; and who are also in friendly correspondence with the Indians agent of the State of Maine, on the subject of their concerns, in which there has been much unity of sentiment with regard to the measures proposed to be pursued. One proposition is "to have an establishment amongst them somewhat on the plan of a poor-house on a large farm, with provision sufficient to relieve their wants; with a judicious superintendent who shall employ each Indian applying for relief a few hours or days as the case may require; and pay him well therefor, in such articles as he may be in want of; he then to return to labour on his own plantation." This plan appears to have met the views of the Legislature of Maine, who at their last session passed an act, regulating their concerns and amongst other provisions, authorising an establishment similar to the one before named, and making an appropriation out of the Indian Funds to accomplish the object.

"There has been a gradual improvement in this condition for several years past; which however has been more manifest in their buildings than in Agriculture. The last two or three years have been cold and backward, and their provisions having been exhausted, they have been under the necessity of going to the woods and shores to hunt and fish, at the time they should have been farming." — "The present season there is a man with a team employed to assist them in the cultivation of their grounds."

"Several of their children have made some progress in reading and writing the English language; mostly under the tuition of their Priest; who is a young man of rather prudent deportment towards Friends and is ready to aid in the promotion of such measures as have been proposed to him for their temporal benefit."

"It appears that they are looking towards Friends for some assistance (as heretofore) to complete their buildings, now in a state of forwardness, and we would hope that a moderate sum should be placed in the hands of such Committee as may be appointed, to be applied in furnishing them with a Sail, Window Glass &c.

The Committee believe there is encouragement for Friends to continue their care: and extend further aid to this people.

On behalf of the Committee,
Rowland Greene,
William Jenkins.

Newport,
6m° 18. 1835.

Which being read: the Motion given by the Committee to the object of their appointment was satisfactory to the Meeting: and being found to believe from the interesting and encouraging nature of the information contained in the Report. That a continuance of care on the part of this Meeting will be attended with usefulness, we appoint John Warren, Caleb Pierce, Stephen Jones, of Rhode Island Borough, Noah Reed, Joseph Rowland, Abijah Newhall, Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, Abijah Chase & Asher Wing, to extend such further assistance in promoting the objects this Yearly Meeting has heretofore had in view in this concern, as way may open for, and report to our next Yearly Meeting. And finally, as the suggestion contained in the Report, the sum of fifty dollars is placed at the disposal of the Committee — which the Treasurer is requested to pay to Joseph Rowland.

A memorial of Sidney Worthy, deceased, was read, and being approved, was directed to be recorded.

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare, and produce at our next sitting, copies of indorsements on minutes, for our Friends now with us from abroad.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth-day morning, the 19th.

Friends again assembled, according to adjournment.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends appointed to visit our subordinate Meetings, and individuals, as occasion might require, and way open for it, and to endeavour to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles & testimonies, and in the preservation of love and unity, produced the following Report:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends appointed last year to visit subordinate Meetings and individuals, report, That they have from time to time given such attention to the objects of their appointment, as way has opened for, and have reason to believe that some usefulness has resulted therefrom; and we are united in proposing the appointment of a similar Committee should way open for it.

On behalf of the Committee,
Benj.a Hry,
Susan Rowland."

Newport,
6m° 19. 1835.

Which was united with, and the Friends now under appointment (with the exception of Abiel Wilbur and Cornelius Howland, deceased) were continued to a similar service, to labour therein as way may open and best wisdom direct, and were requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The proposition for a conference by Committees of the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, on subjects relative to the welfare of the body at large, in which this Yearly Meeting has before taken a deep interest, having again been brought

1835 under consideration, by reference from our last Yearly Meeting, and may not opening at this time for any further proceedings in regard to it, the subject will be left to rest in succession on the minds of Friends, till way may rightly open for its being again brought under consideration.

The Committee appointed to receive subscriptions to assist our friends of South Carolina in removing the people of colour under their care to the free States, report, That they have attended to their appointment, and have received from Friends in attendance at this Meeting, Thirteen hundred & thirty-five Dollars for the above purpose. On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 5th mo 19th 1835. Sam.l Boyd Jon.a.

All which amount the Committee were requested to pay over to Wm Jenkins, Sam.l J. Tabey and Arnold Congdon, to be by them remitted to our friends of South Carolina, with the addition of any further sums that may be handed them: and report their attention to this service, next year.

The Committee on the Correspondence having been requested, at a previous sitting, to prepare, if way should open for it, and report of a communication to our subordinate Meetings, now produced such essay — which being read, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies of the same, signed by him on our behalf, to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. [see page 329.]

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends now with us from abroad, with minutes, agreeable to essays proposed.

Essays of communications to our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, were read, and being approved were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and transmitted to those Meetings respectively.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our minutes, not already provided for, & sign them on our behalf.

Having through the various sittings of this Meeting been enabled to feel, in good degree, the cementing prevalence of Divine love, under the influence of which the interesting concerns of Society that have come before us, have been transacted in much brotherly harmony and condescension — Grateful for this renewed evidence of Divine regard, we concluded, proposing to meet again on this Island, at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

For information respecting Correspondents, see memoranda annexed.

Information respecting Correspondents, noticed in Epistles rec'd in 1833.

"Philadelphia D. M.F." "Isaac Pusey has been appointed a Correspondent within London Grove Monthly M.F. in place of William Baily. ——— Ephraim Scarlet, for Roberson M.C. M.F. in place of Thomas Jackson."

"New York D. M.F." "Samuel G. Slocum, of Le Ray villa, Jefferson C.o New York, is appointed Correspondent of Le Ray M.C. M.F. in Le Ray Quarterly M.F. in place of Daniel Child.

"Daniel Buell, of Monroe, Orange C.o N.Y.k Correspondent of Cornwall M.C. M.F. in Cornwall D. M.F. in place of Jabez Green.

"David Baker, Correspondent of Adrian M.C. M.F. in Farmington D. M.F. — Address, Adrian, Lenawee C.o Michigan Territory.

"David R. Bunker, of Hudson, Columbia C.o Correspondent of Hudson M.C. M.F. in Stanford D. M.F. in place of Isaac Lyon.

"Abner Hunt, Correspondent of Stanford M.C. M.F. in Stanford D. M.F. in place of John F. Mott. Address, Stanfordville, Dutchess C.o N.Y.

"Stephen Moore, Correspondent of Oswego M.C. M.F. in Nine partners D. M.F. in place of Enoch Borland. —— Address, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess C.o N.Y."

NEW-ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING.—6th mo. 1835.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Digest of the returns received from the several Quarterly Meetings, on the subject of Education, presented the following summary view of the information received. Copies of which the Clerk was directed to transmit to our subordinate Meetings.

From the Minutes of said Meeting,

A. SHEARMAN, Jr. *Clerk.*

[N. B. The returns received at the time of the Yearly Meeting, embraced all the *Monthly Meetings*, except *one*; an account from which has since been forwarded to the Clerk, and by him incorporated into the summary view here presented, making the returns complete from the whole Yearly Meeting.]

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.	No. of Children of an age suitable for instruction at School.				Number of Children actually at School within the year.				Number of Schools.			Average duration of Schools within the year.	Number of Teachers Members of Society.		Number of Children who attend District or mixed Schools.			
	Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.		Prepar. Meeting Schools.	Monthly Meeting Schools.	Family Schools.		Male.	Female.	Male.		Female.	
	under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14							under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14
Rhode Island,	126	82	99	81	112	63	92	43			11	6 months.	4	11	109	53	78	34
Sandwich,	145	142	151	138	135	66	137	61	1		3	3⅓ "	1	3	129	51	126	50
Salem,	151	100	131	97	140	77	119	63	2		1	6⅓ "	1	3	123	69	105	65
Falmouth,	105	73	89	80	105	70	90	73			2	3½ "		2	98	64	80	71
Smithfield,	105	86	99	76	105	79	99	54		1	5	6 "	1	6	85	56	71	40
Vassalborough,	197	138	172	124	192	134	169	125			3	5 "		3	192	134	169	125
Dover,	111	81	99	77	110	80	99	73			2	4½ "		2	107	78	98	72
	940	702	840	673	899	569	805	492	3	1	27	5⅓ "	7	30	843	505	727	457

In answer to Query 7, it is stated in the return from Salem Quarter, that care has been taken in the selection of Books for the Schools under the care of Friends; although it is found difficult to procure books in some of the branches that are consistent, in every respect, with our views. The answer from Smithfield Quarter states, that in one Monthly Meeting the books used by the schools were selected by a Committee appointed by the Monthly Meeting. No answer is given to the query from any other quarter.

Falmouth Quarterly Meeting informs, that eight Teachers of mixed Schools, viz. three males and five females, are members of our Society. A note attached to the return from Smithfield Quarter informs, that twelve Members of Society, viz. two males and ten females, have been employed in district schools within the past year, and that, at these schools, many of the children attended, which have been included in their return as having attended district or mixed schools.* A similar note from Salem Quarterly Meeting informs, that Lynn Preparative Meeting School, which was kept nine months, was suspended the other three months for the want of a Teacher.

*The other Quarterly Meetings have not given any information of this kind; but it is known that in some of them, and it is probable that in all, there are Teachers of district or mixed schools, who are members of our society.—*Clerk.*

From the returns above given, it will be seen, that there are, belonging to this Meeting, of an age suitable for instruction at school, (say from 4 to 21 years of age,)

In Rhode-Island Quarter,	388
Sandwich,	576
Salem,	479
Falmouth,	347
Smithfield,	366
Vassalborough,	631
Dover,	368
	3155

Males, under 14,	940	*Females*, under 14,	840
at School,	899	at School,	805
not at School,	41	not at School,	35
at district or mixed Schools,	843	at district or mixed Schools,	727
Males, over 14,	702	*Females*, over 14,	673
at School,	569	at School,	492
not at School,	133	not at School,	181
at district or mixed Schools,	505	at district or mixed Schools,	457

Whole number of Children reported.....Males,	1642	
Females,	1513	
	3155	
At district or mixed Schools,.....2530*		
Attended Friends' Schools, exclusively,.....	235	
Whole number actually at School within the year,	2765	
Not at School,.....	390†	3155

*Some of which attended Friends' Schools part of the time.

†Of these, 133 are males, 181 females, over 14 years of age.

Number of Friends' Schools:

Preparative Meeting,	3
Monthly Meeting,	1
Family,	27

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Rhode Island, from the 29th to the 4th inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1835.

"Having, in this our annual opportunity, been favoured to sit together in feeling, in a good measure of that unity of Spirit which is the bond of love, our dear absent friends have been frequently and sweetly brought to remembrance, with desires that they may be made partakers with us in some of the exercises that have pervaded our minds.

In reviewing the state of Society as brought before us by the reports to the Quarterly Meetings, we are impressively reminded of the obligation that rests upon every well concerned member of the body, that we will be diligent, to labour after a right qualification of mind to enable them to admonish a brother, who may be overtaken in a fault, in the spirit of restoring love. "To tell him his fault between thee and him alone," is an injunction of the highest authority. And were this duty of seasonable private admonition, thus attended to in meekness and wisdom, we have no doubt that it would be blessed to the reclaiming of many in the early stages of declension: and that an increase of strength and peace, an advancement in the fruitfulness of holiness, would be witnessed by those who were engaged in these labours of love, and that they would thus become blessed both to the giver and the receiver. While on the other hand those who indulge themselves in unnecessarily making the fault, real or supposed of others a subject of conversation or communication by letters, and in consequence thus abroad in their minds or who indulge an unwarrantable curiosity in listening to such conversation or letters, cannot but sustain a deep loss themselves, in addition to the great injury that they inflict upon the immediate objects of this detracting spirit, upon which a blessing can never rest, nor the dew of heaven descend.

The great neglect still apparent in the attendance of our religious meetings, particularly on the middle of the week, has been deeply affecting to our feelings, and we have grave fears that our members may be blinded as to a sense of this important duty. May we be impressed with the obligation of attending all our meetings as well on week days as on the day which is set apart for that service by the common consent of the Christian world. If we are in the habitual neglect of mid-week meetings, although we may sometimes assemble with our friends on first-days, when the law of the land forbids our attention to our secular concerns, does not our conduct plainly evince that we prefer our worldly interests to those things which affect our eternal welfare. If we neglect our duty in this particular, we shall invariably witness a consequent declension to other religious duties, until we become as decayed and withered branches, which, not abiding in the true Vine, become barren and unprofitable. Let us, then, not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, but may we be concerned, even now, to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God, which is but our reasonable service. And as we are concerned, on these solemn occasions, to wait upon Him from whom alone all our spiritual strength is derived, we shall be preserved from being overcome with

1833. ... to the reproach of the high profession which we are making, in relation to the spirituality of divine worship.

It is truly painful to observe that, at the present time, ... public mind is becoming more and more unbalanced to the ultimate ... intemperance, and whilst there are engaged in benevolent efforts for its ... many who profess with us should be so unmindful of our well known testimony as regards this subject, and of the moral influence which a strict adherence thereto on the part of individual members would enable our society to exert in the world, as to indulge themselves in the use of spirituous liquors, except for medicinal purposes. May there be an increasing care faithfully to maintain the stand of our Christian testimonies, and we believe as that comes to be the case, we shall find the necessity of resorting to the use of this pernicious article even as a medicine will be of extremely rare occurrence.

The violation of our testimony in relation to War, instances of which are acknowledged in the minutes of several of our subordinate meetings, has been a subject of deep concern at this time. When we consider the testimony which has long been manifested towards our society, by the several state governments within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, we are led to the conclusion that the observance of military requisitions by any of our members, must have been voluntary. On investigation of the principles on which our objections to the anti-christian practice are founded on a want of serious consideration of, is clearly evinced: and desires have been expressed in this meeting that there may be a renewed attention to the circulation and perusal, among the younger part of our society, of such treatises as exhibit in a strong view the sinfulness, the unchristianness of war, and its utter incompatibility with the principles of the gospel of peace. We are impressed with the belief, that as we are faithful in the discharge of our religious duties, our society may be made eminently instrumental, under the divine blessing, in hastening the coming of that day, when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

And we earnestly desire that Friends may be impressed with the importance of maintaining a vigilant supervision over the dear youth under their care, early endeavouring to guard them against every thing which may give a wrong direction to their unexperienced minds, carefully restraining them from attending military parades as spectators: & weaning them from the pernicious influence of those books wherein military fame is held up to view as a worthy object of pursuit.

The continued and aggravated wrongs of the oppressed and degraded coloured people in our country, has been a subject to which our minds have been turned, with renewed concern that we might feel the weight and importance of our testimony on this subject. We desire that Friends may become duly sensible that we have ever acted in relation to it, from religious considerations and in accordance with the principles of the gospel of Christ. May Friends so continue to dwell under the influence of divine wisdom, and so attend to the teachings of truth that we may be preserved in such a consistent walking, as will best promote this great cause of Christian benevolence: and be careful that in all our movements we may act together in unity and love.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid.

Abraham Sherman, Cor. Clerk.

Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island
from the 14th to the 19th inclusive, of the Sixth month, 1835.
To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

We are sensible, we trust, that the love of God is the only source from whence flow all our blessings both temporal & spiritual: it was the attribute of our heavenly Father which conspicuously manifested itself in the creation of our species: when God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; and after the sad lapse of our first parents from that state of uprightness which was their first estate, how great was the condescending goodness of God in the assurance of his promise of a glorious means by which man might be restored from the effects of the fall, and renewed up again into a state of acceptance with him. The proofs of Divine love were also graciously vouchsafed through the several ages of primitive time in the revelations of his divine will through the patriarchs and prophets, who all bear testimony to his condescending mercy and goodness. But it was in inscrutable wisdom reserved until the latter days, for the love and mercy of our God more gloriously to shine forth in the tending by the Father of the Son to be the Redeemer of the world that we might have redemption through his blood even the remission of our sins. In this marvellous loving kindness of his love in that he gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity. And in that, in condescending mercy he bore our sins in his own body on the tree, and suffered the just for the unjust, that he might bring us unto God. The goodness of God was still further manifested in the gift of the Holy Spirit, through the enlightening operations of which, many in humble belief in & submittal to, the will of man may be effectually benefitted by these marvellous workings of God's love, even to its sanctification and everlasting salvation.

These divine truths have appeared to us of primary and vital importance. They were revealed by the Spirit, and testified of in the Holy Scriptures, for our belief, and acceptance, and the belief of them is made to the same testimony mutually interesting. "He that believeth on the Son of God, hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given unto us eternal life, and this life is in his Son." 1 John V. 10.

We have humbly desired for ourselves that we might be preserved on this ancient foundation of Christian truth, that we should firmly rely on the Christian hope. That we should suffer no speculations as to the state of that part of the human family to which the Holy Scriptures have not yet come, to shake our faith in the absolute necessity of our humble and simple belief in the doctrines of Christianity. We have, dear Friends, a compassionate Father, who looketh with pity and tender mercy upon all the workmanship of his holy hand; — and we have this comfortable assurance, by the testimony of the Apostle that "when the gentiles which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law are a law unto themselves,

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also bearing witness and their thoughts the mean while accusing, or else excusing one another, in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel."

Let us take this as a clear evidence upon divine grounds, strongly to urge and press it upon them God hath set forth to be a propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world, namely, that it is not by works of righteousness which we have done but according to his mercy he hath saved us by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost." Titus III. 5 "For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory, but not before God. For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness." Romans IV. 2. 3.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have been comforted together at this season in a renewed evidence that Brotherly love continues among us. The concerns of Society have been harmoniously transacted, and your respectable epistle of last year has been read and well, and you have been brought very near our best feelings. May the Lord bless and preserve you.

The subject of the enslaved condition of our brethren of the African race, had been felt to be deeply interesting; and our minds have been lifted into prayer to Him on their account, with earnest desire that the time may be hastened when the foul blot of slavery may be wiped away from all lands. We have been favoured to feel that we may be preserved in a state of humble dependence upon the Lord for his direction, as to the part which it may become us to act in this important concern.

Our concern to aid by our advice and assistance the Penobscot tribe of Indians, in their endeavours to procure for themselves the comforts and advantages of civilized life, is still continued and by the report of our Committee to promote these objects, it is afraid that some progress is making in this desirable work; and that some new and interesting features in regard to the management of the concerns of the Tribe have recently been adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine, within whose limits they are situated — particularly, a provision for the possession by them of individual property in the improvement of their lands, and the establishment within the tribe, of an asylum for the aged and infirm, and for orphan children. These features are in accordance with the views of Friends, and encourage us to continue our endeavours for their improvement.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received at this time; and you have been affectionately in our remembrance.

We feel that the present is a day that calls peculiarly upon us to watchfulness and prayer; and that we have great need to take unto us the whole armour of God, that we may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. It is a day, dear Friends, when we as a Society have abundant cause to look unto Him whose mercy has been so signally manifested in that he sent his beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord into the world, that whosoever believeth on Him might not perish but have everlasting life. May we duly feel the importance of being fully established and settled in the principles of the Gospel as set forth in the Scriptures of Truth, and living witness in the experience of every true follower of our Blessed Lord. A want of adherence to first principles; to the simple doctrines of the Gospel which were revealed by the Spirit and testified of in the Holy Scriptures, has, we believe, been the fruitful source of the divisions that have taken place in our section of the Christian church.

When through the quickening power of the Holy Spirit we are made sensible of the depravity of our own hearts; of the accursed nature of sin; of the need we have of a Saviour; and of the same blessed power are brought to experience a living faith in Jesus Christ our Lord, who died for us without the gates of Jerusalem, was buried, rose again, ascended into heaven, and now sitteth at the right hand of God, our Mediator and Intercessor with the Father. Then is the heart bowed in humility & warmed with a sense of the infinite and adorable love of God & then displayed to the children of men. And as it is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that we can be brought to a just sense of our destitute condition and so favoured to receive the gift of saving faith in Jesus Christ, so we believe that all those who are under the guidance and direction of this blessed power will ever show forth the fruits of righteousness — among these fruits will be always manifested that of love to the brethren — in the language of the Apostle John — "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth, is born of God, & knoweth God."

We feelingly reciprocate the sentiment contained in your epistle — "May we one and all live as in the immediate presence of Him who is able to keep us from falling, and present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."

Our Meeting at this time has been large, and the Great Head of the Church has been graciously pleased mercifully to own us, so that we have been enabled to proceed in our various deliberations in much harmony; and we desire reverently to adopt the language of the Psalmist: "Blessed be God who hath not turned away our prayers, nor his mercy from us."

Remaining with feelings of Gospel love,

Your friends and brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting;

by Abraham Shearman, jr. Clk

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To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

1. On again assembling in our annual Meeting, we have thankfully to acknowledge, that He who of old favoured our predecessors with his merciful presence, has been graciously pleased to afford us a comfortable token, that he hath not forsaken us; and tho' at times he may see meet to withhold from us the sensible enjoyment of his presence, yet we are yet permitted to have access to the throne of grace; — And we desire reverently to bear in mind and acknowledge, as now, to believe in and bear testimony to, the love of God in the means appointed in his unerring wisdom, by which this unspeakable favour is granted to our erring and fallen race — "For God who is rich in mercy for his great love wherewith he loved us even when we were dead in sins hath" "quickened us together with Christ," as with the Apostle, "by grace ye are saved," "to the end that we who were sometimes afar off might be made nigh by the blood of Christ."

2. Dear Friends, a sense of your kindness has been realized in our meeting, and you have been again brought to our remembrance in the love of the Gospel, in which we salute you as dearly beloved brethren. We desire so mingle our concern with yours, and unitedly to feel, that the one great cause, calls for the dedication of all our talents to the Lord's use and service. — And it is unspeakably encouraging to us to believe, that it is His gracious design, that we should become partakers of the mercies of God through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the kind that we might live. That being united together we might become an habitation of God thro' the Spirit. And, dear Friends, may an abiding concern rest on our minds to maintain inviolate the bonds of that cementing love which has hitherto preserved us as a people, that so in all our endeavours to promote the cause of our Redeemer's kingdom we may co-operate together in unity & harmony. And whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. — So we carefully attend to the pointings of that wisdom which is profitable to direct, we may be enabled so to walk that our lives may exhibit to the world a practical comment on the excellence of the principles of our profession — that we are indeed built upon the foundation of the apostles & prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, in whom all the building being fitly framed together, groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord.

3. Our meeting has been large, and in her love surrounded with a company of many of our precious younger brethren, whose hearts we trust are measurably under the joining hand of Him who can alone qualify for usefulness in his service. — giving us a comfortable hope that when those who now stand as watchmen on the walls of our Zion shall cease to inhabit mortal life, there will be found among the youth those, who through faithfulness to the manifestation of duty, will become prepared to take their places, so that instead of the fathers there may be the sons. — We trust as favoured to sustain their ranks in righteousness, & stand faithful to the cause of their dear Lord and Master, we trust they will become qualified, rightly to fulfil his gracious designs concerning them. Even that they should become his standard bearers, faithfully maintaining those precious testimonies which we are called upon to bear.

4. Our concern to aid by our advice and assistance the Friends' Society of Indians, in their endeavours to procure for themselves the comforts and advantages of civilized life is still continued: and by the report

[illegible] to [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in [illegible] ~~[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]~~ [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

1835. viduals, neglect to inculcate in the minds of young Friends this interesting part of our Christian testimony, thereby increasing the danger of their growing up without duly appreciating the great importance of the grounds upon which Friends have been concerned to bear this testimony. ——

Sad is it not, too, much the case, that the same state of things exists with regard to the oppressed condition of the African race. We Friends, sufficiently consider that our testimony against slavery is a religious testimony, and as such, should be sacredly maintained. May Friends everywhere be watchful, that in all their movements in this cause, they act together in unity and love; — this we believe we shall best subserve the interests of suffering humanity.

The subject of a guarded religious and literary education of our youth has claimed the serious attention of this Meeting, and measures are in progress to extend increased care in this respect. The practice of a daily perusal of the Holy Scriptures, with our hearts turned to Him who can alone rightly open them to our understanding, has been feelingly brought before us, and earnestly recommended.

Some other subjects of importance have also received the serious attention of this Meeting. * We have been favoured to conduct our business with great unanimity of feeling, and have abundant cause to acknowledge the commendable goodness of the great Head of the Church in watching over us, as we believe He has at this time.

Under a renewed sense that of ourselves we can do no good thing, that our dependence, and all our goings forth, must be in the name and in the power of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we bid you an affectionate farewell, desiring that you may be encouraged earnestly to persevere in the best things.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

* Add paragraph 4, 5, Epistle to Philad.ª

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Although we have not, at this time, received an Epistolary communication from your Meeting, yet our minds are still drawn to you as to our brethren of the same family; & this mingles in sympathy with the universal lamentation of those who mourn for the desolations of Zion. And that Jesus, with you and us, as they trusted, God their condition will not be overcome, will in due time receive the Truth of that declaration, that "tho' sorrow may endure for a night, yet joy cometh in the morning" — He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. And altho' your numbers may be small — yet, how often have the wrestling seed experienced, and at times to their humbling admiration, that our strength does not consist in numbers. We trust that even in your stripped situation, as a firm reliance is placed on the never failing arm of Omnipotence, the gracious promises of the Master will be verified, that he will be in the midst. And have we not reason to believe, that it is for the want of sufficiently submitting to the sanctifying power of Truth, to the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, that so many depart from the true faith.

To the Second query we would advise the ancient language, "It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. He sitteth alone and keepeth silence because he hath born it upon him."

As this shall be their blessed experience, we may reasonably hope that while those who have long borne the burthen in the heat of the day, are removed, and removing, from works to rewards, there may be a succession of Standard bearers in whom should dwell the Lord may rest, and who may be engaged to gather in their day and generation, the testimonies, which we now be suffering for, faithfully bore.

And how marvellously were they supported in that time of deep trial, while they held fast the Faith once delivered to the Saints— which stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire and put to flight the armies of the aliens.

The deficiences manifested in the answers to the Queries, from our subordinate Meetings, are cause of sorrow to the concerned amongst us, and we desire that the hands of all such with us and you may be strengthened to labour for the removal of weakness from our borders, and that Zion may again arise and put on her beautiful garments. Our Yearly Meeting School still continues to give evidence of usefulness to the Society.

Our concern to aid by our advice and assistance the [illegible] remnant tribe of Indians, [See 4th paragraph Epistle to Phila.]

The subject of the much injured people of colour in our land, still engages our serious attention, and a concern prevails, that Friends may be favoured to stand in their proper allotment, and discreetly act their part, from time to time, under divine direction, in hastening their final emancipation &c.

[Paragraph 5. Epistle to Philadelphia]

Much sanity of feeling has marked the deliberations of this Meeting, and, under a grateful sense of this, and other favours mercifully extended to us, we conclude, with the salutation of love, and are,

Your Friends and brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting

by Abraham Sharman, jr. Clerk.

To Virginia

Dear Friends,

Being assembled in our annual Meeting, we have had renewedly to acknowledge the continued regard of our Heavenly Father in favouring us with a comforting evidence of his presence and watchful care; under an humbling sense of which we have had a fresh cause to commemorate his great goodness, believing that those who wait upon him, will in his own due time, experience the fulfilment of his gracious promise, that their strength shall be renewed.

Our Meeting at this time was been large, and we have been made sensible of our dependence on the immediate influence and teachings of our Holy Head and High Priest, rightly to move in the transaction of the weighty concerns of Society; and we have, in good measure, had evidence during our deliberations, of the precious prevalence of that devotedness to the same thing, whereby we have been enabled to act in much harmony.

We have received at this time your acceptable Epistle of 5th mo. 13th which was not received at our last Yearly Meeting; also one of 5th mo. last [illegible] and were glad to hear of your welfare, and that you were favored to meet together in your different Meetings, for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness on the earth. Remember, dear Friends, that under whatever difficulties and discouragements we may be endeavouring to advance the cause, or how small soever our numbers may be, the work is the Lords, and to those who rely in simple dependence on divine aid, He will be strength in weakness, and a present helper in the needful time. The example of our early predecessors, who evinced their steadiness amidst many opposition and suffering, should tend to us an encouragement to us, their descendants and professors of the same faith, to look unto the Lord alone for strength: for he has promised to fulfil his presence, even to the few who are gathered in his name.

We have had at this Meeting the acceptable company of many of our young Friends, among whom we are encouraged to believe, there are many who are yielding to the forming hand of Him who alone can qualify for usefulness in the Church.

We have been informed at this time into near sympathy for those who are placed in difficult and trying situations in relation to the much injured and oppressed African race. And we desire that Friends every where may not cease in their Christian efforts to improve their unhappy condition.

All with the salutation of love we remain, your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To North Carolina

Dear Friends,

Blessed be the renewed and tender mercy of a kind heavenly Father. Father, we are watched over his humble dependent children with a more than fatherly care, have we been permitted to take our annual opportunity, and have been made sensible, that without Christ we can do nothing; that except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it. This entire dependence on the Lord Jesus Christ, as abode under, will preserve us from falling either the gloom of despondency, or the apathy of indifference; and encourage us to look with fervency of desire, unto Him, who has not only the power, but the will to help, all whose confidence is not in an arm of flesh, but solely in the living God.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 5th month last, together with the epistles from our dear brethren of other Yearly Meetings, have we received. And truly our hearts have been made glad, in hearing that there is still preserved among you a living remnant, who travail for the welfare of Zion, and who rejoice in the prosperity of the blessed Truth. May the number be increased till the little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation.

With

With regard to your endeavours to promote a guarded religious and literary education among the beloved youth, in an sincerely say, may the blessing of heaven attend your exertions, and may you be encouraged to persevere in them.

We deeply sympathize with you, as respects the trying situation in which you are placed in regard to the payment of your [illegible]. May you earnestly implore the Father of lights for that wisdom which is alone profitable to direct; and surely He who gives liberally and upbraideth not, will not refuse to listen to your petitions. Deeply do we commiserate the situation of our enslaved coloured brethren, for whom Christ died, as well as for us. And in the spirit of the Gospel would we encourage [illegible] for a continuance of their exertions. At the same time, we feel very desirous that Friends, every where, should keep out of the heats and strifes that arise in the world: for the spirit of this world, it is but one, whatever name it may assume, or however plausible may be its pretences.

In reflecting on the present state of our Yearly Meeting, we have much to be grateful for. We have reason to rejoice, that there are still amongst us, those who are sincerely concerned for the promotion of the cause of Truth; yet it is cause of sorrow that many deficiencies still exist.

The subject of a guarded education for our beloved youth claims and receives our solid and serious attention. And while speaking on this subject we cannot forbear, in the tenderness of Gospel love, to entreat the young to bear the yoke in their youth, to sit alone and keep silence, to put on the meek, clean garments of the cross of Christ, it is the only way to true blessedness, both in this world, and in the world to come. Soon will it be said of the fathers, Where are they? Or whom shall their mantle fall, but on you? Oh, disappoint not their expectations, and frustrate not their hopes.

Finally, let us all, young and old, seek more and more to have the love of God shed abroad in our hearts, by the Holy Ghost. Oh, the power, benefit, virtue, and beauty of this holy and heavenly influence! How does it constrain us to love one another! How does it enable us to love, pity and pray for our enemies, after the example of our blessed Lord on the cross, who uttered this prayer, for those who crucified Him, Father, forgive them, they know not what they do. In this disposition, under the influence of the love of God, should we understand in its full and broad extent, the deep meaning of that solemn declaration, God is love, and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in Him.

In the [illegible] remain, Your [illegible]

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Hakon [illegible]

[Paragraph concern. removal of Y.m.f.]

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

In assembling together at this time, to transact the important concerns of Society, we feel bound gratefully to acknowledge mercy and goodness of the Great Head of the Church, in permitting us to convene together, and in granting us a portion of that love, [illegible] the consciousness of which we have been favoured in different settings of this Yearly Meeting, preserved in harmony

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1835. consideration; and have been made to feel that there is strength in a unity of exercise and a joint engagement of spirit.

Your epistle of the 9th month last has been received and read at this time, to our satisfaction — affording an evidence, that although distant as to place, we can call each other, we are still one people, having one object in view, the promotion of truth and righteousness in the earth.

The concern we cordially unite in, is not confined to the limits of a single nation, but extends to the whole family of mankind; and believing that it has ever been the design of a gracious Providence that we should, as a body, hold up the standard of righteousness, we desire that Friends every where may be preserved from engaging in any of the contentions and conflicts of nations, so prevalent at this critical time, which tend to engender a spirit of discord & strife, rather than to sustain the cause of the Kingdom of our blessed Lord. That it may bring the eye of our mind simply to the teachings of the Holy Spirit, manifest to others that we are enlisted under the banner of the Prince of Peace.

The importance of a more guarded religious and literary education of our dear youth has claimed our renewed attention; and by accounts received from our Yearly Meeting's Committee on Schools and the state of education among us, we are induced to believe that the concern which has prevailed in this Yearly Meeting for many years on this subject is producing a salutary effect, and Friends have been encouraged to continue their exertions in establishing select and family schools.

In reviewing our many favours, which have from time to time been vouchsafed, some of us have been led to reflect upon the tender impressions made upon our minds in childhood, when we were blessed with school teachers who were earnestly engaged for our eternal welfare; and we have greatly desired that wherever select Schools are established, Teachers may be obtained who are not only qualified and competent to instruct the children in useful learning, but who would endeavour both by precept and example to promote and inculcate those principles in the minds of children, which we consider ourselves bound to support and maintain.

The belief, that the Holy Scriptures in their Schools, we believe would have a very favourable effect and that the minds of the children under the instruction there imparted to them would often be seasoned, and the great truths contained in the Sacred Volume which point to the means of salvation through a crucified Redeemer become associated with their earliest impressions.

Your contemplated Boarding School we perceive is still claiming your attention, and we earnestly wish your encouragement in this interesting concern. Our School Committee have at this time made a satisfactory report, and we have reason to believe that the Institution has been beneficial to many of the youth of our Society.

The lively interest you manifest in the cause of the Indians has called forth our sympathy; and we have desired that in all our movements towards this much injured class of our fellow beings, we may be governed by that wisdom which is profitable to direct, this is the only path in which we can expect our labours in their cause to be crowned with a blessing.

We are the salutation of love as becometh Dear Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk.

To Indiana

Dear Friends,

Being once more assembled in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, we have cause to acknowledge, that although deeply humbled under a sense of our many infirmities, to God is due the weight of our, and to His the sincere tribute of praise. Thanksgiving and Prayer, have we indeed in a comfortable measure, that we are not a forsaken people.

Your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last, has at this time been received; and with you, we have felt a lively interest in the prospect of the rising generation. We feel much for that interesting class of our Society; and in an especial manner, for those who enjoy few of the privileges of an early education. Much it appears to us, is demanded of us, as Societies in their care. The well known susceptibility of their tender minds will afford a strong argument in their behalf; for most decidedly care in furnishing them with the means of early and correct views as a guard against the incipient steps of error; such is very liable to find its way into the uncultivated mind. We would therefore encourage Friends in the most forbidding of circumstances will at length yield to the honest and faithful discharge of individual duty.

We can, with you, too, reciprocate the expression of a deep concern for a steady adherence to the great and fundamental doctrines of the Gospel; and for the precious testimonies, which our worthy predecessors, through much suffering, were called to bear, that in our hands they may be maintained with undeviating firmness before the world — and that, whilst on the one hand, in common with Christian professors of other denominations we maintain the doctrine of faith in Christ, as the one great offering for the sins of the world, we with all humility, keep in view the characteristic testimony of the Society to the invisible manifestations of the Eternal Spirit.

Situated, as our dear Brethren of your Yearly Meeting are, in a variety of circumstances, known to yourselves, and to us, as intimately connected with the profession of truth, and having a variety of interests, and frequently a diversity of religious views, it must be of great importance to stand manifest before all men, as Christians, as Friends, walking by the same rule and minding the same things.

It is grateful to our feelings at this time, to remark, that the long lamented condition of the people of colour in our land is still claiming the concern of our meetings. When opportunity offers of doing them good, our Friends appear, from feelings of mercy and pity, to come to their aid. In relation to this deeply injured class of our fellow men, the purposes of Divine Providence have been mercifully in patience, from our view. But when it is evident that the most beneficial purposes on behalf of suffering man, have been brought to pass by an Over-ruling power, with very little of human agency, we feel encouraged, notwithstanding the present darkened horizon, to look to this great cause with confidence in the Lord to bring it forward, without mingling with it much of worldly policy or design, desiring to do what our hands find to do in relation to it.

We salute you in Gospel love, and are your Friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

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NEW-ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING.—6th mo. 1835.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Digest of the returns received from the several Quarterly Meetings, on the subject of Education, presented the following summary view of the information received. Copies of which the Clerk was directed to transmit to our subordinate Meetings.

From the Minutes of said Meeting,

A. SHEARMAN, Jr. *Clerk.*

[N. B. The returns received at the time of the Yearly Meeting, embraced all the *Monthly Meetings*, except *one*; an account from which has since been forwarded to the Clerk, and by him incorporated into the summary view here presented, making the returns complete from the whole Yearly Meeting.]

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.	No. of Children of an age suitable for instruction at School.				Number of Children actually at School within the year.				Number of Schools.			Average duration of Schools within the year.	Number of Teachers Members of Society.		Number of Children who attend District or mixed Schools.			
	Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.		Prepar. Meeting Schools.	Monthly Meeting Schools.	Family Schools.		Male.	Female.	Male.		Female.	
	under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14							under 14	over 14	under 14	over 14
Rhode Island,	126	82	99	81	112	63	92	43			11	6 months.	4	11	109	53	78	34
Sandwich,	145	142	151	138	135	66	137	61	1		3	3⅓ "	1	3	129	51	126	50
Salem,	151	100	131	97	140	77	119	63	2		1	6⅓ "	1	3	123	69	105	65
Falmouth,	105	73	89	80	105	70	90	73			2	3½ "		2	98	64	80	71
Smithfield,	105	86	99	76	105	79	99	54		1	5	6 "	1	6	85	56	71	40
Vassalborough,	197	138	172	124	192	134	169	125			3	5 "		3	192	134	169	125
Dover,	111	81	99	77	110	80	99	73			2	4½ "		2	107	78	98	72
	940	702	840	673	899	569	805	492	3	1	27	5⅓ "	7	30	843	505	727	457

In answer to Query 7, it is stated in the return from Salem Quarter, that care has been taken in the selection of Books for the Schools under the care of Friends; although it is found difficult to procure books in some of the branches that are consistent, in every respect, with our views. The answer from Smithfield Quarter states, that in one Monthly Meeting the books used by the schools were selected by a Committee appointed by the Monthly Meeting. No answer is given to the query from any other quarter.

Falmouth Quarterly Meeting informs, that eight Teachers of mixed Schools, viz. three males and five females, are members of our Society. A note attached to the return from Smithfield Quarter informs, that twelve Members of Society, viz. two males and ten females, have been employed in district schools within the past year, and that, at these schools, many of the children attended, which have been included in their return as having attended district or mixed schools.* A similar note from Salem Quarterly Meeting informs, that Lynn Preparative Meeting School, which was kept nine months, was suspended the other three months for the want of a Teacher.

*The other Quarterly Meetings have not given any information of this kind; but it is known that in some of them, and it is probable that in all, there are Teachers of district or mixed schools, who are members of our society.—*Clerk.*

From the returns above given, it will be seen, that there are, belonging to this Meeting, of an age suitable for instruction at school, (say from 4 to 21 years of age,)

In Rhode-Island Quarter,	388
Sandwich,	576
Salem,	479
Falmouth,	347
Smithfield,	366
Vassalborough,	631
Dover,	368
	3155

Males, under 14,	940	*Females*, under 14,	840
at School,	899	at School,	805
not at School,	41	not at School,	35
at district or mixed Schools,	843	at district or mixed Schools,	727
Males, over 14,	702	*Females*, over 14,	673
at School,	569	at School,	492
not at School,	133	not at School,	181
at district or mixed Schools,	505	at district or mixed Schools,	457

Whole number of Children reported.....Males, 1642
Females, 1513
3155

At district or mixed Schools,.....2530*
Attended Friends' Schools, exclusively,..... 235
Whole number actually at School within the year, 2765
Not at School,..... 390† 3155

*Some of which attended Friends' Schools part of the time.
†Of these, 133 are males, 181 females, over 14 years of age.

Number of Friends' Schools:

Preparative Meeting,	3
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Family,	27

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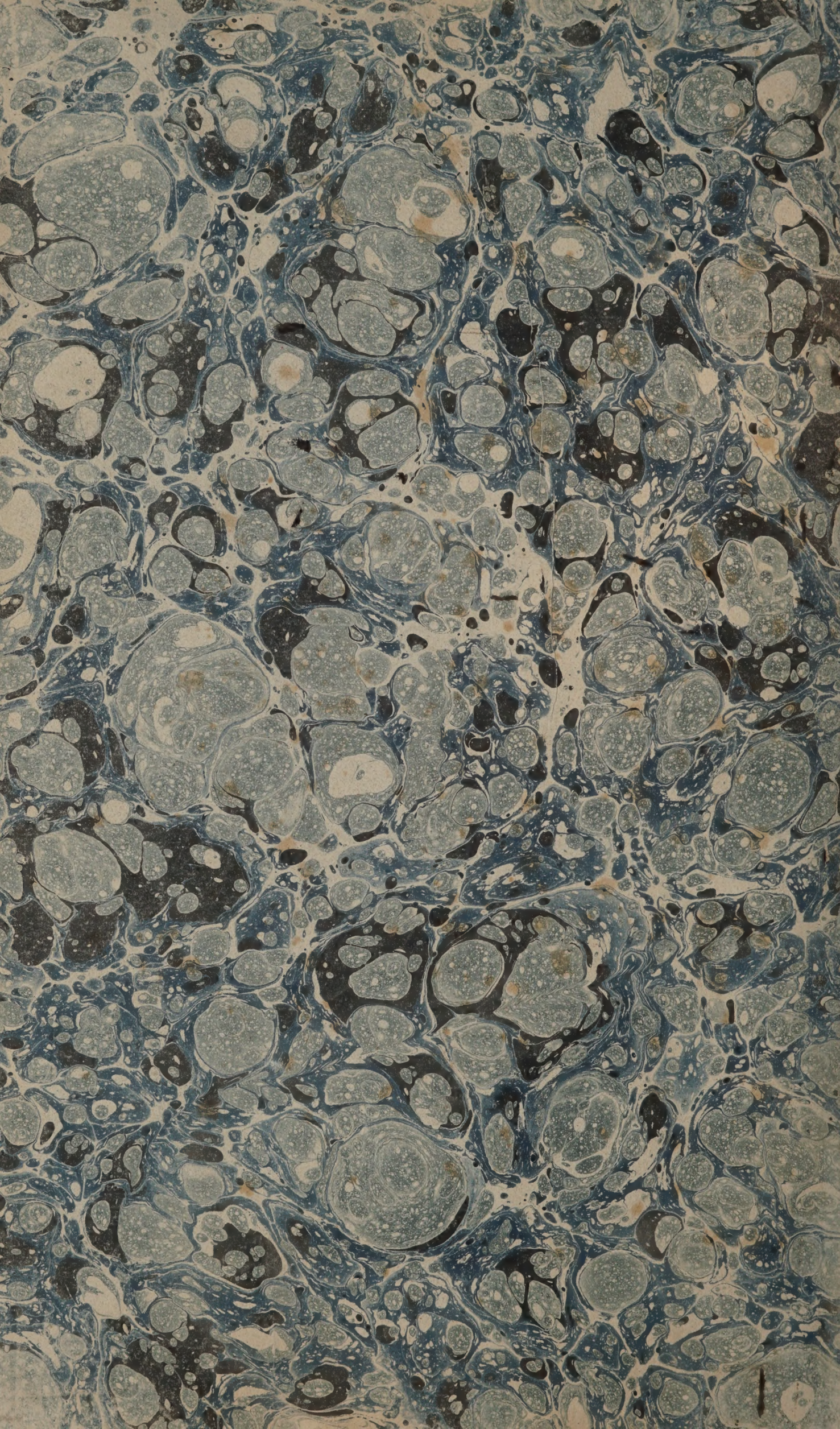
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